UNITED
NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ICEF/1992/11
21 May 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
1992 session

FOR INFORMATION

UNICEF EMERGENCY OPERATIONS

SUMMARY

The present report has been prepared in response to Executive Board decision 1991/19 (E/ICEF/1991/15). Chapter I reviews the role of UNICEF in emergencies, while chapter II discusses means of strengthening UNICEF emergency capabilities, including the comparative advantages of UNICEF, joint efforts and coordination, and the organization of UNICEF emergency assistance. UNICEF emergency response activities in 1991 are described in chapter III.

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INTRODUCTION

1. In decision 1991/19 (E/ICEF/1991/15), the Executive Board requested the Executive Director to elaborate on the proposals made in his report contained in document E/ICEF/1991/11 as they related to the following:

(a) Setting out areas for the optimal use of the comparative advantage of UNICEF and means of developing them further in complementarity with other capacities in the United Nations system;

(b) Joint efforts and coordination with other organizations within and outside the United Nations system engaged in emergency humanitarian assistance, especially the very useful role the UNICEF office at Geneva should play in that regard;

(c) Recommending how to structure the organization of emergency assistance at headquarters, regional and field levels, utilizing national capacity, with a view to making its planning and management prompt, effective and coordinated within the United Nations system, taking fully into account the presence and capabilities of UNICEF national staff, as well as those of government agencies concerned;

(d) Outlining how coordination is to be achieved within UNICEF headquarters, between emergency units and other departments and units involved in the planning and management of emergency operations, with a view to ensuring that emergency operations are, if possible, supportive of the regular programme activities and that there is appropriate integration between emergency interventions and regular country programme activities in the recipient countries.

2. The present report aims to respond to the requests made by the Executive Board and to provide an overview of UNICEF emergency activities in 1991.

I. UNICEF AND EMERGENCIES

3. During 1991, UNICEF was called upon to provide increasing amounts of emergency assistance to 50 countries, more than doubling its emergency expenditure and placing unprecedented demands on UNICEF staff, management and the Supply Division. UNICEF appeals, issued as part of coordinated inter-agency assessments, raised the level of supplementary funds for emergencies from $57 million in 1990 to over $134 million, or over $151 million when all sources of funding were taken into account.

4. UNICEF also played a major part in 1991 in United Nations discussions culminated in General Assembly resolution 46/182 of 19 December 1991 on strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations, and welcomed the appointment of the new Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs.

5. The responsibility of UNICEF to assist children in all critical circumstances lies at the core of its mandate, but its response to emergencies depends on the specific situation being addressed. The UNICEF response can range from activities aimed at establishing critical household food security levels in areas affected by famine and drought to the airlifting of vaccines, supplementary food and oral rehydration salts (ORS). UNICEF emergency interventions are triggered, at the request of the concerned Governments, by hardship and human suffering arising from man-made or natural disasters that have caused physical loss or damage and social and/or economic disruption, with which a country is unable to cope by itself.

6. In a world where natural disasters and economic and political strife continue to increase, causing severe hardship to growing numbers of children and women, UNICEF has to provide emergency assistance. Its existing mandate, past performance and the expectations of most Governments and the world's humanitarian community require that it do so. At the same time, UNICEF must continuously bear in mind its primary responsibility, which is to help to bring about sustained improvements in the social and economic conditions of all children and mothers requiring assistance.

7. As stated by the General Assembly in the guiding principles for United Nations emergency assistance contained in the annex to resolution 46/182, UNICEF believes there "is a clear relationship between emergency, rehabilitation and development. In order to ensure a smooth transition from relief to rehabilitation and development, emergency assistance should be provided in ways that will be supportive of recovery and long-term development ... emergency measures should be seen as a step towards long-term development."

8. This principle underlines all UNICEF emergency response programmes, which have always contained significant rehabilitative components designed to help rebuild the minimal human and physical infrastructure essential for carrying out priority emergency response activities in fields such as water supply and sanitation and primary health care (PHC). The strengthened infrastructure becomes, in turn, the springboard for follow-up recovery programmes.

II. STRENGTHENING UNICEF EMERGENCY CAPABILITIES

A. Comparative advantages of UNICEF

Field structure and links with country programmes

9. The most important comparative advantage of UNICEF in dealing with emergencies is its field-based structure. The presence in most of the world's developing countries of a significant number of technical and professional staff means that when a natural disaster or a severe emergency situation occurs, UNICEF already has in place personnel who are able to respond immediately to the situation. Moreover, because most UNICEF programmes are based predominantly in rural and peri-urban areas, UNICEF field staff generally have already established working relationships with the people and

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national technical services in affected areas. This infrastructure, established to carry out regular programme activities, can also serve as the basis for a rapid response and for the subsequent implementation of larger-scale emergency response programmes.

10. Another comparative advantage of UNICEF is the fact that many regular country programme activities are in sectors that are critical under emergency conditions, including water supply and sanitation, PHC, specialized feeding and household food security activities. When an emergency situation develops, UNICEF in-country staff are in a position to adjust ongoing programme activities by strengthening or adapting them to the needs of affected people. The transformation is relatively easy and rapid since it generally involves only questions of scale and of adjusted sectoral priorities.

11. The importance of the UNICEF field structure and the links with country programmes during emergencies was demonstrated in 1991 by the UNICEF response to the situation between Iraq and Kuwait. As part of United Nations inter-agency cooperation concerning refugees in the region, UNICEF was responsible for water supply and sanitation activities because of its strengths in that area. In another example, in April 1991, UNICEF deployed a rapid action team to the eastern border of Turkey to channel vaccines, syringes and ORS to refugee staging areas.

Supply Division

12. Another significant UNICEF advantage in responding to emergency requirements is its ready access to the emergency relief supplies stored at the Supply Division warehouse at Copenhagen. Over the years, the warehouse's inventory and extensive network of suppliers have come to include the bulk of the priority supplies usually required in an acute emergency situation. This involves not only specialized medical kits, ORS, essential drugs and high-protein foods, but also vital supplies such as shelter materials, small generators, basic tools, communication equipment and water supply materials. The fact that this material can be shipped to areas in need within a matter of hours is clearly of enormous importance to the UNICEF capacity to respond quickly to emergency needs. The warehouse's facilities and supplies are available not only to other United Nations agencies, but also to non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and bilateral donors involved in emergency response activities. In 1991, Supply Division procurement services on behalf of Governments, the United Nations system, NGOs and other agencies totalled $48,928,000. This included goods shipped from the Copenhagen warehouse and orders placed with suppliers on behalf of those organizations.

Non-governmental organizations

13. At the field level, UNICEF owes a great deal of its awareness of a specific country's situation, developing trends and emerging problems to its links with community-based institutions such as local NGOs, women's associations and producers' or consumers' cooperatives. Through them, UNICEF often has advance knowledge of developing crises. In addition, UNICEF in many ways follows the approach of NGOs in its support for grass-roots activities.

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This similarity is reflected in the well-developed cooperation and mutual support that exist between UNICEF and NGOs at the field level in most countries.

14. The year 1991 also saw increased collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and both local and international NGOs. In a number of complex emergency situations, as in Iraq, Liberia, Somalia and the Sudan, UNICEF relied heavily on cooperation with NGOs for needs assessment assistance as well as for joint programme implementation. UNICEF continued to assist NGOs to solicit donor funds and to carry out emergency relief activities. UNICEF is also expanding its cooperation with indigenous NGOs, which is also a means of increasing national capacities. An increasing number of NGOs have signed letters of association with UNICEF in which they agree to implement activities, as equal partners, with UNICEF. As described last year, under the terms of association, NGOs benefit from information exchange, field cooperation and joint appeals and reporting. Through this arrangement, they also gain access to logistics and communications and participate in policy and operational meetings.

Emergency Reserve Fund

15. In 1991, the Executive Board increased the level of the Emergency Reserve Fund (ERF) to $7 million. Details on the use of the reserve in 1991 can be found in paragraphs 42-47 below and in annex I to the present report.

16. Rapid, "up-front" financing of emergency requirements through ERF is an essential component of the UNICEF emergency response potential, particularly for emergencies that require relatively small amounts of funding. The reserve complements and allows the optimal utilization of the resources available through the Supply Division warehouse.

National Committees for UNICEF

17. National Committees for UNICEF play a unique role not only in fund-raising for emergency assistance activities, but also in sensitizing their respective general publics as to the gravity of the particular emergency and the nature of UNICEF (and the United Nations) intervention.

18. In 1991, National Committees provided an unprecedented $31 million for emergencies from private sector fund-raising, or approximately 23 per cent of the total raised. Several major government donors often match or "top off" such private sector contributions.

19. In major "new" emergencies and for rapidly occurring natural disasters, the resource mobilization flexibility of National Committees enables UNICEF to respond quickly. For example, in the aftermath of the 1991 situation between Iraq and Kuwait, 12 National Committees - from Canada and Germany (among the largest) to Luxembourg and New Zealand - provided funding within the first weeks of the formal inter-agency appeal, allowing UNICEF to build up rapidly its supply and monitoring capacity.

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20. Following the recent earthquake in Turkey, the prompt funding commitments of three European National Committees enabled UNICEF to mount three separate airlifts of relief supplies within 72 hours of the disaster.

21. With the major, complex emergencies in the Horn of Africa, Liberia, Mozambique and elsewhere, National Committees, the television news media and UNICEF Goodwill Ambassadors have joined ranks on numerous occasions to feature the plight of women and children caught up in civil conflict. The resulting coverage details for the viewing public UNICEF on-the-ground assistance, thus reinforcing the credibility of the organization.

B. Joint efforts and coordination

United Nations agencies

22. In 1991, UNICEF built upon and strengthened existing modes of collaboration with other United Nations agencies. The Executive Director was fully involved in the discussions on the restructuring of the coordination of United Nations emergency humanitarian assistance and welcomed the appointment of the new Emergency Relief Coordinator. The Executive Director has and will continue to support fully the work of the Coordinator, for example, by seconding UNICEF staff to his office and by participating actively in inter-agency missions organized by the Coordinator, as well as in joint appeals.

23. The Executive Director believes that the reorganization of the United Nations emergency mechanism has been a positive development. However, because he does not want to preempt the outcome of the Emergency Relief Coordinator's ongoing work on the organization of the new United Nations emergency coordination structure, UNICEF is awaiting the outcome of those discussions before determining the precise role of the UNICEF Geneva Office within the new United Nations structure and whether the capacity of the Geneva Emergency Unit should be increased. If the office needs to be strengthened, proposals will be included in the normal manner through the budget for the 1994-1995 biennium, to be submitted to the Executive Board at its 1993 regular session. The Executive Director will report to the Executive Board on the United Nations emergency restructuring and its implications for UNICEF in 1993.

24. At the country level, there is daily coordination with the United Nations special coordinator, the official designated by the Secretary-General as responsible for the overall United Nations programme, or the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) resident coordinator, who normally coordinates United Nations humanitarian assistance at the country level. The coordination includes early needs assessments, subsequent regular updating of requirements, meetings and exchanges of information on operational problems and other issues. In most instances, communication networks and logistics support are also shared by the agencies concerned and often with participating NGOs at field level.

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25. The UNICEF emergency response capacity is already linked to and complements those of several other United Nations agencies. UNICEF often works in collaborative programmes with UNDP, as in education activities in northern Somalia. UNICEF cooperation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) is based on an approach by which UNHCR develops or implements major support programmes for refugees and displaced persons, while UNICEF extends in-country capabilities to meet the needs of children and women included in those programmes in a rapid and cost-effective way. Joint programmes are devised, on a country-by-country basis, to ensure complementarity of action and effective coordination of the agencies' respective activities. In 1991, for example, UNHCR and UNICEF collaborated on a water supply project for Somali refugees in Kenya. Examples of such cooperation in 1991 included activities in Cambodia, Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malawi, Mozambique, southern Sudan, Somalia and Yugoslavia.

26. A similar type of cooperation exists between UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) at the country level, and increasingly includes joint needs assessments and the parallel implementation of food aid programmes, which are the responsibility of WFP, in conjunction with the related provision of water supply and sanitation and medical support programmes, which are handled by UNICEF. In areas such as Afghanistan, Liberia, southern Sudan and Somalia, where cooperation between the two agencies in implementing field programmes is particularly well developed, the joint management of logistics and other facilities is now routine. Cooperation between WFP and UNICEF within the framework of food-for-work programmes is also growing, but those activities are often developmental in nature.

27. The advantage of having a strong field presence and a developed operational capacity at the country level is also used in cooperation with United Nations technical agencies such as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO). As technical agencies, FAO and WHO provide sectoral policy guidance to Governments, assist them in the development of recovery or mid- and long-term sectoral strategies and carry out a large number of training and technical assistance projects. When a severe emergency situation develops, UNICEF cooperates closely with WHO in needs assessments in the health sector and seeks its advice on a variety of technical questions. Both agencies agree on a division of responsibilities so that the emergency assistance provided is complementary. While the country "mix" is different in each case, as it reflects the strengths of the agencies' respective programmes in a country, WHO assistance in emergency situations tends to be more structural in nature than that of UNICEF. WHO emphasizes the collection of data on health conditions, epidemiological surveillance of the affected people and the rehabilitation of medical services, while UNICEF tends to be more directly involved in operational problems affecting the provision of water, sanitation facilities, basic health inputs, immunization and supplementary feeding.

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Recent developments

28. The level of cooperation between UNICEF and the United Nations and other emergency response partners increased considerably during 1991 and included the following activities:

(a) UNICEF participated fully in all deliberations in Geneva and New York on the United Nations system overall emergency response capacity which led to the adoption of General Assembly resolution 46/182 on strengthening the coordination of humanitarian emergency assistance of the United Nations;

(b) UNICEF participated fully in the various missions executed under the aegis of the Executive Delegate of the Secretary-General for a United Nations Inter-Agency Humanitarian Programme for Iraq, Kuwait and Iraq/Turkey and Iraq/Iran Border Areas, including the initial mission to Iraq, where the Memorandum of Understanding was defined and negotiated. As one of the agencies responsible for implementing the programme of humanitarian assistance to Iraq, UNICEF collaborated closely with the coordination structure set up under the aegis of the Executive Delegate and the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO) for needs assessment, preparation, public information and other activities designed to monitor and respond to the humanitarian requirements of affected children and mothers;

(c) The Executive Director strongly supported the establishment of the Special Emergency Programme for the Horn of Africa (SEPHA) in September 1991. UNICEF participated in all inter-agency missions undertaken as part of SEPHA to monitor the situation and to update the emergency requirements of the region, a process which led to the launching of two major appeals;

(d) Throughout 1991, UNICEF also participated actively in the meetings called by the New York-based United Nations African Emergency Task Force to review emergency problems in western and southern Africa. It also participated in a number of important inter-agency missions to countries such as Afghanistan and Cambodia, where the involvement of the United Nations system is critical to recovery and reconstruction;

(e) Throughout the year, UNICEF worked systematically with a number of NGO groups on the review of emergency situations and related needs and in developing modes of association that would facilitate implementation and increase the impact of UNICEF and NGO programmes in Angola, Liberia, Iraq and southern Sudan. UNICEF also participated regularly in information and coordination meetings organized at Geneva by the International Council of Voluntary Agencies, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and, in New York, by Interaction.

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C. Organization of UNICEF emergency assistance

Prevention and preparedness activities

29. As part of its regular programme activities, UNICEF has begun to carry out systematic "risk mapping" and prevention and preparedness activities in a number of countries. Early warning systems have been established in three countries, with extensive training programmes for national staff, so that this function can eventually be taken over by the Governments concerned as part of their regular responsibilities. This is a tremendous challenge since many high-risk countries lack trained human resources, making it difficult to keep national experts and staff focused on an activity which, in the absence of a catastrophe or continued ecological or other stress, does not have the same high priority as other government concerns. However, UNICEF hopes this knowledge, if implemented in cooperation with other agencies and through continued emphasis on the training of national government staff, will result in a more effective, prompt and better integrated response, and will also allow Governments to remain abreast of critical developments so that corrective actions can be taken before emergencies occur.

30. With this aim in mind, in 1991 UNICEF organized an Emergency Management Training Workshop at Nairobi, which brought together some 50 staff members, primarily from offices in Eastern and Central Africa. A similar training exercise was to be held for francophone Africa in late May 1992, with another session to be held in October. Based on the experience gained from the workshops, others will be held for higher management, so that field and headquarters staff can increase their knowledge and also take advantage of training opportunities made available by UNDP, UNDRO, UNHCR and other relevant United Nations organizations.

31. An effective response to emergency situations must begin with the early implementation of advanced warning, prevention and preparedness activities, especially in countries known to be at high risk because of ecological and/or internal stress situations. Such activities must be carried out as an integral part of UNICEF country programmes, in close cooperation with other United Nations agencies within the framework of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction. Socio-economic stress can be detected by keeping track of population movements, rapid changes in the traditional modes of life of communities and families, even moderate alterations in the nutritional status of vulnerable groups, significant shifts in the prices of basic foodstuffs and livestock or traditional community coping mechanisms. Because these changes can and do lead to severe emergency situations, continuous risk mapping, updating of country analyses and awareness and monitoring of key indicators should be a standard feature of UNICEF programme activities, even though they are clearly related to emergency planning and management.

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Staffing

32. While acute, complex emergencies require rapid responses by staff who are trained and willing to work under stressful and difficult circumstances, the bulk of activities that make up emergency response programmes are to a considerable extent similar to the standard work that UNICEF carries out in most developing countries as part of the regular country programmes. This is particularly true in the fields of water supply and sanitation, PHC and specialized feeding. The major difference is that emergencies require rapid responses and are thus compressed into a very short time-span.

33. It is difficult to prepare responses to complex emergency situations until they actually occur. While the Supply Division warehouse already stockpiles key commodities as part of UNICEF forward planning, and while a small number of emergency specialists are on call to assist in the assessment and the preparation of emergency response programmes, it is not possible to have "on hold" for any significant length of time the specialized field staff and expensive equipment required to implement emergency programmes on short (or no) notice. One of the chief reasons is that with the exception of resources available from ERF (which are used primarily to procure emergency commodities), all UNICEF emergency response programmes are financed through supplementary funds, mobilized after an emergency has occurred and a specific inter-agency appeal has been prepared and launched. This process slows down the recruitment of specialized field staff when they are most needed, at the very onset of emergencies, since resources are not available to cover salaries and related costs. While redeployment or "borrowing" of staff is common to meet the most critical requirements, this practice weakens other programmes and can only be for the short term.

34. New emergencies, especially when they occur in a world-wide context of an above average number of emergencies as in 1991, place tremendous strains on field offices and supporting operational divisions at headquarters. In the light of the phenomenal increase in emergencies in 1991 and the restructuring of the United Nations system's emergency coordination, UNICEF has undertaken a series of senior management reviews of staffing, training and headquarters response mechanisms. The reviews have produced a number of recommendations that the Executive Director will review, in conjunction with the office of the United Nations Emergency Relief Coordinator. The Executive Director will report to the Executive Board in 1993 on the outcome of those discussions.

Headquarters and field-level response

35. UNICEF responses to different emergency situations vary greatly, depending on the nature of the crisis being addressed, the needs of women and children stemming from it and the existing capacity of the field office concerned. It should be stressed, however, that irrespective of the nature or severity of a given emergency, the UNICEF field representative, in cooperation with the Government, is the key actor and focal point responsible for the coordination of the UNICEF response. He or she triggers the initial request for emergency assistance, discusses the thrust of the assistance, participates

in the ensuing assessment exercise and coordinates the preparation of the emergency response programme, ensuring that it is appropriately linked to a strategy for rehabilitation and recovery or, to the extent feasible, to regular or bridging programme activities. The country representative must also ensure that the UNICEF emergency response is developed in cooperation with the United Nations and other agencies. The role of headquarters is essentially a supportive one.

36. The involvement of headquarters is proportional to the existing capacity of field offices to deal effectively with emergencies. If an office has the personnel, logistic capabilities and experience required to plan and handle the necessary response, involvement from headquarters tends to be limited to consultations on the nature, scope and implementation of the proposed response programme, as well as the provision of specialized short-term expertise. The capacity of existing government services to respond to the crisis also determines the degree of outside involvement in the emergency response programme. In all cases, the field representative has the primary responsibility for implementation, monitoring and reporting.

37. Whatever its scope, headquarters support to a developing or actual emergency situation is always multidisciplinary. Staff from the Emergency Programmes Unit, the geographical sections, the Programme Funding Office, the Division of Personnel, the Division of Information and the Office of Administrative Management participate jointly in the elaboration of a strategy to cope with the emergency, ensuring that proper consideration is given to the necessary linkages with rehabilitation, recovery and development activities. Cooperation between staff from the Emergency Programmes Unit and from the regional office concerned is particularly intensive and takes place on a daily basis.

38. Task forces are the chief mechanism used to achieve a cohesive approach and are set up to deal with specific emergency situations or to monitor threatening country situations. All task forces, which are not permanent, include staff from the above-mentioned divisions. Task forces can be particularly effective at the acute stage of emergency situations, when prompt, coherent action is required from the different units involved. As the emergency wanes or the response is integrated into a more structured programme approach, the task forces are disbanded. By the end of 1991, there were standing task forces for Iraq, the Horn of Africa and Yugoslavia. Task forces that dealt primarily with Liberia and southern Africa met only on an ad hoc basis when developments required an overall review of the situation and a concerted response by all concerned elements.

Capacity of national staff

39. In all cases, the capacities of UNICEF national staff are utilized to the maximum extent possible because they represent the continuity of the UNICEF presence in country. Their familiarity with the situation and knowledge of the problems at hand facilitate the handling of the response programme. Very often, a large percentage of the back-up staff needed to implement the

programme are hired locally. However, while senior national staff in any office play a critical role in the management of emergencies arising from natural disasters, it is often difficult for them to play a similar role during man-made disasters, such as civil wars, when the ethnic origin of staff can involve them in conflict between fighting factions. The training of international and national staff in emergency management remains absolutely central to the UNICEF strategy for improving its capacity to handle all types of emergencies, without repeatedly having to resort to extraordinary measures. It is particularly important to provide systematic training to national staff, especially in disaster-prone countries, because international staff are regularly assigned to new duty stations.

40. It is often difficult to establish precisely when a period of acute emergency assistance is over and the rehabilitation phase has begun. In fact, in several countries where emergency conditions are localized, emergency response activities are carried out in certain areas next to rehabilitation programmes in less affected areas. In some cases, normal country programme activities continue, as in the case of Ethiopia. In countries where a generalized level of insecurity has made it impossible to continue normal country programme activities, bridging or interim programmes retain as much as possible of the previous country programme, emphasizing rehabilitation activities and the effective involvement of local community leaders and government services, while allowing for activities that respond readily to the critical needs of women and children. In the case of natural disasters, where security risks are not an issue, the emergency response phase is generally very short, marked by intensive procurement and carried out while normal rehabilitation, recovery and programme activities are still ongoing. In cases where the nature of the emergency is structural or political and where systematic rehabilitation and recovery programmes are not possible, pragmatic assessments are made constantly to determine when normal activities might resume.

41. In general, the rehabilitation/recovery phase begins when: (a) the survival response has been regularized; (b) political arrangements and adjustments have been negotiated; (c) special logistics and operational arrangements are no longer required; and (d) basic family and community activities have again become stable and routine. When those conditions have been met, the basis has been established to resume normal programme activities, focusing on the restoration of social services and the re-establishment of a viable human and physical infrastructure. At that stage, the involvement of emergency staff is no longer required.

III. ACTIVITIES IN 1991

A. Overview

42. In 1991, the Executive Board increased the level of ERF to $7 million. By using the ERF revolving fund and replenishing it with specific-purpose contributions, $11.7 million was actually provided through ERF in 1991.

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43. The fund remains the chief mechanism available to UNICEF to procure and dispatch urgently required assistance at the very outset of emergencies. Through ERF, in 1991 UNICEF responded quickly to the urgent survival needs of women and children affected by natural and man-made disasters in 35 countries.

44. The decision to release ERF resources depends on the severity and urgency of needs based on a rapid but careful assessment of the situation; the release of the funds is not contingent on the launching of an appeal. Details of the use of ERF resources, according to country and the type of emergency, are provided in annex I to the present report.

45. During 1991, UNICEF provided emergency assistance to over 50 countries in Africa, Asia, the Americas and the Caribbean, the Middle East and North Africa and Central and Eastern Europe. UNICEF appeals, issued as part of coordinated United Nations inter-agency assessment and appeals, were the main source of financing for the non-food components of UNICEF emergency programmmes.

46. Significantly, emergencies caused by conflict and population displacements, at times exacerbated by recurrent natural disasters such as drought, have continued to pose a major challenge to UNICEF. In the Horn of Africa, continuing complex and acute emergency situations required the mounting or strengthening of major emergency programmes in Ethiopia, Somalia and the Sudan that also involved people in Djibouti and Kenya. The civil conflict in Liberia, which also affected Sierra Leone, Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire, also required major emergency and rehabilitation assistance. While significant progress was made towards peace in Angola and Mozambique, those countries still required emergency support in 1991. Political developments in Central and Eastern Europe, especially in Albania and Yugoslavia, required that UNICEF provide assistance to large groups of affected children and mothers, in cooperation with UNHCR and ICRC. Finally, one of the main focuses of UNICEF emergency efforts over the past year was the Middle East and North Africa particularly Iraq, while Afghanistan continued to require major emergency support.

47. Other emergencies caused by natural disasters and/or health-related problems that required UNICEF assistance in 1991 were the cyclone in Bangladesh; the volcanic eruption and floods in the Philippines; earthquakes in Afghanistan, Costa Rica and Panama; floods in China, Guatemala, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malawi, Myanmar and Viet Nam; drought in Chad; and severe outbreaks of cholera in Africa and Latin America. ERF releases and, in some cases appeals, were used to finance relief and rehabilitation interventions to assist the affected countries. Table 1 below presents the United States dollar amount of the UNICEF appeals issued in 1991 for major emergencies and the donor response. Table 2 below presents the funding allocated for emergencies in 1991 by geographical region.

Table 1. Contributions received towards appeals for emergency relief and rehabilitation as of 31 December 1991

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Region/ country	1990 a/			1991 b/		
	Appeal amount	Received	Unfunded balance	Appeal amount	Received	Unfunded balance
AFRICA						
Angola	22 760	6 576	16 184			
Chad	-	-	-	850	58	792
Ethiopia	-	-	-	42 700	8 112	34 588
Kenya	-	-	-	660	-	660
Malawi	-	-	-	925	462	463
Mozambique	-	-	-	19 609 c/	4 016	15 593
Somalia	-	-	-	8 565	6 556	2 009
Subregional						
Liberia				16 099 c/	10 808	5 291
Sierra Leone	2 526	1 145	1 381	-	-	-
Guinea	2 526	1 329	1 197	-	-	-
Côte d'Ivoire	2 526	1 218	1 308	-	-	-
Subtotal	30 338	10 268	20 070	89 408	30 012	59 396
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA						
Sudan	-	-	-	29 000 c/	29 813	(813)
Djibouti	-	-	-	950	518	432
Iraq	-	-	-	83 542	35 313	48 229
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	-	-	-	5 238	5 238	-
Jordan	-	-	-	9 000	3 969	5 031
Kuwait	-	-	-	99	99	-
Syrian Arab Republic	-	-	-	878	878	-
Turkey	-	-	-	2 170	2 170	-
Subtotal	-	-	-	130 877	77 998	52 879
ASIA						
Afghanistan	-	-	-	2 968	2 877	91
Bangladesh	-	-	-	30 000	7 188	22 812
Myanmar	-	-	-	1 564	7	1 557
China	-	-	-	1 095	481	614
Philippines	-	-	-	1 220	511	709
Sri Lanka	2 000	785	1 215	-	-	-
Subtotal	2 000	785	1 215	36 847	11 064	25 783
AMERICAS						
Peru	-	-	-	2 007	671	1 336
Subtotal	-	-	-	2 007	671	1 336
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE						
Albania	-	-	-	1 000	909	91
Romania	-	-	-	3 500	364	3 136
Yugoslavia	-	-	-	5 113	1 338	3 775
Subtotal	-	-	-	9 613	2 611	7 002
TOTAL	32 338	11 053 a/	21 285	268 752	122 356 c/	146 396

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a/ These late 1990 appeals totalling $32,338,000 received 40 per cent of the overall total funding requirement, with an unfunded balance of 60 per cent. This amount includes contributions received in 1991.

b/ The 1991 appeals totalling $268,752,000 received 46 per cent of the overall total funding requirement, with an unfunded balance of 54 per cent. This includes contributions received in 1990 for Liberia, Mozambique and the Sudan.

c/ Supersedes 1990 appeals for Mozambique ($11,673), Liberia ($2,365) and the Sudan ($30,941).

Table 2. Funding allocated for emergencies in 1991 by geographical region

(In thousands of United States dollars)

Region	Emergency Reserve Fund a/	Diversion/ reprogramming	Special contributions b/	Total
Africa	1 998 c/	4 977	40 905	47 880
Americas and the Caribbean	798 c/	178	551	1 527
Asia	1 933 c/	4 901	12 217	19 051
Middle East and North Africa	526 c/	157	78 035	78 718
Central and Eastern Europe	304 c/	-	2 985	3 289
Total	6 132 d/	10 213	134 693	151 038 d/

a/ The annual allocation of the Emergency Reserve Fund was $7 million starting in 1991.

b/ Includes contributions received towards ongoing appeals and special contributions for emergency relief and rehabilitation.

c/ The original ERF allocations totalling $11.6 million ($2,475,500 for Africa ($478,000 replenished); $833,000 for the Americas and the Caribbean ($34,782 replenished); $2,068,000 for Asia ($134,668 replenished); $4,850,000 for the Middle East and North Africa ($4,324,182 replenished); and $850,000 for Central and Eastern Europe ($545,556 replenished)) were eventually replenished from special contributions with donors agreement and from the return of unspent balances of earlier releases (see annex I for details).

d/ Includes $573,100 authorized for project support costs to strengthen management response capacity of headquarters/field office to emergencies.

B. Responses to natural disasters and cholera outbreaks

48. In all cases, UNICEF helped to meet the immediate relief and survival needs of children and women, in close collaboration with other national and international organizations providing relief assistance. A considerable part of UNICEF emergency assistance was directed to the rehabilitation of essential services damaged during disasters, to support the delivery of emergency commodities and to accelerate the recovery of ongoing programmes in the affected areas. This involved the restoration and re-equipping of basic health centres and water supply systems, combined with immunization and activities for the control of diarrhoeal diseases (CDD). Primary examples of this approach were the UNICEF emergency programme interventions in Afghanistan, Bangladesh and the Philippines.

49. ERF was the main source of funding to help cope with those types of crises. Emergency appeals issued for Bangladesh, China, Myanmar and the Philippines also provided financial assistance, although on a minimal scale. For example, only 24 per cent of the total funding requirement for the Bangladesh appeal was received from donors, although the appeal was primarily for rehabilitation activities.

50. Cholera outbreaks affected Latin America and western Africa. The most affected countries in the Americas were Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador, while Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Zambia and Yemen also faced outbreaks. ERF funds were released in response to the urgent need to control severe outbreaks of the disease. In Chad, where the cholera outbreak was compounded by drought, assistance was provided through ERF for that country, as well as for Cameroon; regular programme commitments were diverted for Benin and Yemen and a special contribution was used for Zambia. In both regions, emergency support consisted mainly of the provision of essential drugs, ORS, medical and water purification supplies and logistical support.

51. In Albania, a severe economic crisis combined with localized drought conditions had a dramatic impact on the health and nutrition of children and women. Of the $1 million identified by UNICEF as necessary to meet children's and women's needs for a three-month period, $500,000 was released from ERF to procure the most urgent supplies for supplementary feeding, health kits and ORS. Part of the commitment from ERF has been reimbursed by donor contributions.

52. Adding to the deteriorating socio-economic situation in Bulgaria, an outbreak of polio affected several parts of the country, placing many children at risk. Responding to a Government request for assistance to contain the spread of the disease, UNICEF allocated $50,000 from ERF for the provision of polio vaccines, syringes and needles.

C. Responses to man-made disasters and conflict situations

53. In February 1991, a joint WHO/UNICEF mission visited Iraq to assess the impact of the war on women and children and to pave the way for an inter-agency humanitarian programme. Not long afterwards, a UNICEF emergency relief programme became fully operational. In subsequent discussions with the Government, an inter-agency United Nations mission agreed that UNICEF would concentrate its support on affected civilians located in the central and southern parts of the country, while supporting the role of UNHCR as lead agency in the northern Kurdish areas. In that general context, UNICEF assistance has remained focused on the fields of water supply and sanitation, general health and immunization and the special nutritional requirements of vulnerable groups.

54. The supply and logistical operation mounted in Iraq rebuilt the country's expanded programme on immunization (EPI) from a state of near total collapse. The delivery of water purification reagents, spare parts and equipment for water and sewage plants helped to improve significantly water quality and contained the spread of water-borne diseases. High-energy food saved many children from starvation, and extensive breast-feeding promotion has helped to decrease newborns' dependency on powdered milk and infant formulas. The provision of essential drugs has ensured basic availability of pharmaceuticals in all the governorates. The rapid scaling up of CDD programmes through the provision of ORS and rehydration fluids, and the support of training and social mobilization activities, have greatly helped to control diarrhoeal diseases.

55. Working closely with the Government, other United Nations agencies and NGOs, UNICEF delivered over 900 tons of medical supplies, 5 million ORS sachets and 2.3 million doses of poliomyelitis, measles, anti-tuberculosis and tetanus vaccines, and over 4,000 tons of water purification reagents. There were also shipments of large quantities of spare parts, machinery and equipment to rehabilitate water treatment and sewerage plants and the cold chain.

56. UNICEF requests for funding, which formed an integral part of United Nations appeals and plans of action issued in 1991, were updated as part of a United Nations system-wide needs reassessment issued in September 1991. It was estimated that a total of $83.5 million would be needed to meet emergency needs up to December 1991 in the areas of water supply and sanitation, basic health, immunization and nutrition. As of end-December 1991, only $35.3 million had been pledged and received against the UNICEF appeal.

57. Since the beginning of the United Nations emergency response programme in the Islamic Republic of Iran, UNICEF assistance has provided direct health support to reception centres, transit camps and temporary health posts through the provision of health kits, vaccines, cold-chain equipment and essential drugs. UNICEF also supported UNHCR in implementing water supply and sanitation, PHC and waste disposal activities needed to accommodate 1.4 million Iraqi refugees. Contributions received towards the costs of those activities amounted to $5.2 million.

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58. Within the framework of the United Nations coordinated humanitarian programme and in close cooperation with the Government, United Nations sister agencies and NGOs, UNICEF support to over 1.8 million evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait in Jordan consisted of water supply and sanitation equipment, personal hygiene supplies, shelter material, essential drugs, vaccines and cold-chain equipment, high-energy food and technical and logistic support. Contributions towards the cost of those activities amounted to $8.1 million.

59. A UNICEF team visited Kuwait on 1 March 1991, some 24 hours after the cease-fire was announced, to assess needs and the psychological effects of the conflict on mothers and children. Following the visit, UNICEF airfreighted vaccines and cold-chain equipment to help vaccinate some 215,000 children and 30,000 women, and assisted the Government in developing and implementing a low-cost, community-based plan of action for assistance to mothers and children traumatized by the war. UNICEF released $150,000 from ERF, which was subsequently replenished, to meet those requirements.

60. In the Syrian Arab Republic, UNICEF support to evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait included the provision of health, water supply and sanitation facilities, nutrition and shelter supplies and technical support. That assistance was closely coordinated with the Government, UNHCR and NGOs as an integral part of the United Nations appeal. Donor contributions towards the cost of these activities amounted to $9 million.

61. In Turkey, in close cooperation with UNHCR, the Ministry of Health and NGOs, UNICEF deployed its emergency rapid response team in mid-April 1991 to help the UNICEF field office respond to the pressing needs of some 500,000 refugees, and to mount an emergency relief programme for critically affected children and mothers. To protect children and women against winter conditions at mountain sites, over 50,000 sets of clothing, 10,700 tents and 5,000 blankets were provided by UNICEF as part of a concerted international relief effort, supported logistically by coalition forces. In addition, large quantities of vaccines, cold-chain equipment, health and clothing kits, essential drugs, high-energy food, water purification chemicals and water tanks were delivered to refugee camps and sites. UNICEF assistance amounted to $2.3 million, all financed from emergency contributions. The UNICEF emergency operations in Turkey ended in May 1991, when the repatriation of refugees was completed.

62. UNICEF provided assistance to evacuees from Yemen in the border areas where special emergency camps were established. Emergency interventions consisted of the provision of measles vaccines, health and essential drugs kits and support to the operation of health teams in the Jihama region, where returnee families congregated. Total assistance amounted to $100,000 from ERF.

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D. Africa

63. UNICEF, as full participant in SEPHA and the $400 million appeal it issued in September for activities running through 31 December 1991, appealed for $79 million to cover non-food requirements in the areas of health, water supply and sanitation, household food security and nutrition and relief, shelter and operation support services. As of 31 December 1991, a total of some $45 million had been received by UNICEF against the appeal for the region, mostly for the Sudan.

64. Djibouti was already hosting some 80,000 Somali refugees when events in Ethiopia caused a large and sudden influx of over 38,000 refugees fleeing the conflict areas. In addition, its largely service-based economy was adversely affected by the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, creating additional hardship for both refugees and local citizens. UNICEF assistance to Djibouti consisted of intensified EPI and oral rehydration therapy (ORT) activities, the provision of essential drugs and maternal and child health supplies for health centres in urban and refugee areas, and training for health personnel. A total of some $517,000 was raised for Djibouti in 1991.

65. In Ethiopia, drought, civil conflict and the massive displacement of hundreds of thousands of people throughout 1991 resulted in an intensification of UNICEF emergency activities and interventions in the non-food sector. A total of over $8.1 million was raised for support consisting of supplementary food, medical supplies and water supply programmes for returnees and refugees in the Ogaden, and to drought- and war-affected areas of Wollo and Tigray. In Eritrea, support included the reactivation of health centres and extension of PHC services, reconditioning of hospitals, water supply and sanitation projects and the production of basic education materials. In addition, throughout Ethiopia, UNICEF continued to make available shelter items for use in emergency situations, soap and feeding utensils, trucks with a capacity of 7-10 metric tons and logistical support for hiring workers to arrange port handling and clearance activities.

66. In Somalia, despite the intense fighting and volatile situation in several parts of the country, UNICEF managed to continue to supply emergency medical, shelter and food items to partner NGOs in Mogadishu through the organization of air charters and a back-up supply system in Mombasa and Nairobi. In late 1991, UNICEF obtained the agreement of the Secretary-General to field four staff members to Mogadishu to help resume urgently required humanitarian programmes in both parts of the embattled city. In the northern regions of the country, UNICEF has helped in the rehabilitation of health facilities and schools, immunization and the provision of drugs and basic educational materials, and also assisted in the reconstruction and reactivation of vital water supply systems in Hargeisa, Berbera and other urban areas.

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67. Tragically, in early January 1992, while sitting at a roadside coffee shop, a UNICEF staff member was killed in the hitherto quiet port of Bossaso, in north-eastern Somalia; two other members of her party were wounded. The identity of their attackers is still unknown. In spite of the tragedy, UNICEF staff continued their work in Mogadishu and other parts of the country, expanding operations wherever possible. The provision of field vehicles, airfreighting of supplies, rehabilitation of storage facilities and monitoring and coordination of relief activities have continued to be a priority in the accessible parts of the country. Overall, $6.5 million was received in 1991 for those activities.

68. Sudan continued to be a major priority intervention area. Drought led to crop failure and the death of livestock in large areas of the north, while civil war in the south continued to devastate vast areas of the country. Moreover, large influxes of refugees and returnees from Ethiopia were an additional burden on an already overstretched government and relief organization infrastructure. The UNICEF emergency assistance programme for the Sudan, in the amount of $29.8 million, provided critical curative services, essential drugs, the large-scale production and distribution of high-protein food for malnourished children, child immunization activities, the training of personnel, the rehabilitation of basic community facilities and the promotion of ORT. In both northern and southern areas, clean water supplies were provided and related systems were maintained and repaired.

69. Activities in the southern sector carried out through Operation Lifeline Sudan continued, with airlifts of food, essential drugs and relief supplies. Vulnerability reduction was addressed through support to agricultural production, the provision of seeds, tools and fishing equipment and the vaccination of cattle against Rinderpest and other livestock diseases.

70. In Kenya, UNICEF collaborated closely with UNHCR and the Government in providing assistance to tens of thousands of Somali and Ethiopian refugees in camps such as Liboi, Garissa and Utange. A total of $118,500 was spent on the provision of shelter, water supply and sanitation and educational and medical supplies.

71. In Mozambique, a total of $4.1 million was disbursed as part of the ongoing emergency programme. Activities included assistance to combat a cholera outbreak, essential drugs, supplementary food and educational and water supply and sanitation materials for displaced populations fleeing both drought and rebel-affected areas.

72. In Angola, assistance amounting to $265,000 was used for specialized programmes for the families of demobilizing soldiers, and a further $6.3 million for ongoing relief and rehabilitation programmes in health nutrition and relief needs.

73. In December 1990, as part of the United Nations inter-agency consolidated appeal for Liberia, UNICEF appealed for $2.4 million for non-food assistance for the capital, Monrovia. Donor response to these and other related emergency requests, reflecting the frightful conditions of children and mothers in Monrovia and other parts of the country, has been generous.

74. In August 1991, a consolidated United Nations inter-agency appeal was launched and UNICEF appealed for $16.9 million for a 12-month (July 1991-June 1992) programme of assistance to benefit 2.25 million people, mostly children and women. With funding of over $10 million received against these appeals, emergency activities have encompassed a wide range of life-sustaining and rehabilitation activities in sectors relating to water supply and sanitation and related power requirements, health, medical care and nutrition, children in especially difficult circumstances and education.

75. Affected by the conflict in Liberia through an influx of Liberian refugees, Côte D'Ivoire, Guinea and Sierra Leone required further assistance to address the needs of displaced persons. A UNICEF subregional appeal was issued in February 1991 for the three affected countries, totalling $7.5 million and encompassing non-food requirements for health and nutrition, water supply and sanitation and relief and survival supplies. UNICEF received a total of $3.9 million against the appeal. In Sierra Leone, the situation was exacerbated by armed infringements from Liberia and increased rebel activity, which has caused massive internal population displacements. To respond to the most urgent relief needs for health, water supply and sanitation activities of the displaced, UNICEF released $251,000 from ERF. A United Nations emergency/rehabilitation plan is under preparation.

E. Other countries

76. The United Nations Office of Coordination for Afghanistan launched a winter emergency appeal for that country for 1991. In response, UNICEF carried out an extensive emergency programme focused on nutrition screening and supplementary food distribution of micronutrient supplements. Those activities have increased UNICEF access to a great number of communities in both urban and rural areas. Consequently, UNICEF programmes have been further developed and extended to those communities. Between December 1990 and May 1991, the programme was carried out in 13 provinces benefiting 285,000 children, 45 per cent of whom were in mujahideen-controlled areas. Funding assistance from ERF totalling $593,000 supported this emergency intervention.

77. A serious internal conflict situation has also affected Zaire. To respond to the immediate needs of children and women affected by the conflict, UNICEF reprogrammed some $380,000 from the regular programme commitment to provide vaccines, syringes and needles and emergency health kits. A mission to assess the country situation and to draw up an emergency plan of action was sent in late December 1991.

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78. In Haiti, the effects of political unrest and severe civil disturbances were compounded by a trade embargo imposed on the country that had a particularly devastating impact on the poorest strata of the population. The already difficult situation of practically destitute children and women became worse, with health and water supply and sanitation services incapacitated due to lack of fuel, gas and electricity, and with the price of basic food staples rising far beyond their reach. UNICEF responded to the increasingly acute humanitarian needs of children and women by reprogramming $380,000 of available regular programme resources, and released $200,000 from ERF to implement programmes in the sectors of health and nutrition, water supply and sanitation and project support activities.

79. The conflict in Yugoslavia displaced over 500,000 people in 1991, primarily in Croatia and Serbia. Two thirds of the affected individuals were children and women, with 40 to 50 per cent of the children under the age of 15 years. Based on a UNHCR/UNICEF assessment mission carried out with the collaboration of ICRC, a proposal for a programme of emergency assistance was prepared and an appeal launched on 3 December 1991. Within the scope of the appeal, UNICEF requested $5.1 million to cover interventions in the areas of health, nutrition, relief and survival supplies and services. Some $1.3 million were received in 1991, enabling the purchase and distribution of baby parcels, vaccines, heating equipment, emergency health kits, milk and project support services. Temporary staff posted in Belgrade and Zagreb have been supporting the implementation and distribution of UNICEF humanitarian assistance.

Annex I

RELEASES AUTHORIZED FROM THE EMERGENCY RESERVE FUND IN 1991 a/

(In United States dollars)

Region/country	Nature of emergency/action taken	Amount
AFRICA		
Angola	Special emergency assistance for the families of demobilizing soldiers covering most immediate needs for essential drugs, immunization, household commodities, soaps and detergents, training of health workers	265 000
Cameroon	Outbreak of cholera: provision of essential drugs, medical supplies, logistic and technical support	92 000
Chad	Drought/cholera: provision of essential drugs, vaccines, ORS, water and sanitation supplies, high-energy biscuits and logistical support	250 000
Ethiopia	Drought/civil conflict: provision of essential drugs, vaccines, provision of pumps, drilling of boreholes, trucking of water, training of health workers and logistical support	478 000b/
Kenya	Assistance to Somali refugees in Kenya, in cooperation with UNHCR: provision of water supplies and equipment	93 500
Malawi	Flood: provision of essential drugs, medical supplies, water tanks and containers, tarpaulins, blankets, water purification items and logistical support	111 000
Mauritania	Supplementary and therapeutic feeding inputs in cooperation with WFP: basic operational and logistical support, growth monitoring training	175 000
Mauritius	Cyclone: provision of basic water and sanitation supplies and primary school materials	25 000
Mozambique	Emergency assistance to civilian populations in rebel-held inaccessible areas in cooperation with ICRC: provision of essential drugs and medical supplies	50 000
Sierra Leone	Armed conflict/Liberian refugees: provision of shelter material and emergency inputs in health and water supply/sanitation sectors	251 000
Somalia	Armed conflict: emergency assistance to accessible areas: relief and survival items, essential drugs, medical supplies, immunization, supplementary and therapeutic feeding, nutritional surveillance and logistic support	685 000
	Subtotal	2 475 500

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AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN

Bolivia	Cholera outbreak: provision of essential medicines, ORS and chlorine for water purification	50 000
Costa Rica	Earthquake: provision of medical supplies, shelter materials, disinfectant, generators to re-establish the cold chain, mobile radio communication equipment	50 000
Ecuador	Cholera outbreak: provision of ORS, antibiotics, infusion sets and support to health/hygiene education measures	70 000b/
Haiti	Special emergency assistance to destitute children and women resulting from political crisis: provision of medical supplies, specialized food	200 000
Panama	Earthquake: provision of ORS, antibiotics, shelter material and various relief and survival items	25 000
Peru	Cholera epidemic: procurement of ORS, health and water purification supplies, support and services for the cholera control programme	438 000
	Subtotal	833 000

ASIA

Afghanistan	Earthquake/floods: provision of emergency health kits, water purification items, shelter materials and hospital tents, blankets, water tanks	100 000
	Winter relief assistance, to complement WFP large-scale food distribution programme: provision of essential relief survival items such as blankets, shelter material, high protein biscuits, essential drugs and health kits, K-MIX II and oil and logistical support	593 000
Bangladesh	Cyclone: provision of essential drugs, ORS, water purification tablets, vaccines, high-calorie foods, intravenous fluids and shelter materials	1 000b/
Myanmar	Flood: provision of emergency health kits, collapsible water tanks, shelter and survival items, water purification items, water containers	75 000
Philippines	Volcanic eruption/typhoon: provision of ORS, water storage containers and purification tablets, basic health kits	100 000
Viet Nam	Floods: provision of basic health, shelter materials and primary school supplies	200 000
	Subtotal	2 068 000

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MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA

Iraq	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: emergency intervention in health	52 500
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: emergency intervention in health, water supply and sanitation	5 700
	Effects of situation between Iraq and Kuwait: advance procurement of medical supplies and equipment, water supply and sanitation items, blankets, cold chain, vaccines, high-protein biscuits, and project support costs	900 000b/
	Flood: provision of cold-chain equipment, ORS, medical supplies and logistics costs for the restoration of damaged health centres	100 000
Jordan	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: relief and shelter needs for the advance procurement of essential drugs, cold-chain equipment, vaccines, health kits, generating sets, water containers, clean drinking water supplies	1 000 000b/
	Effects of situation between Iraq and Kuwait: advanced procurement of water supply and sanitation items, blankets, health kits, relief and survival items for the refugees	1 100 000b/
Kuwait	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: provision of vaccines and cold-chain equipment, technical support for psychosocial activities for war-traumatized children and mothers	150 000b/
Syrian Arab Republic	Effects of situation between Iraq and Kuwait: advance procurement of health, water, supply and sanitation facilities, nutrition, shelter supplies and technical support	500 000b/
Turkey	Effects of situation between Iraq and Kuwait: provision of shelter materials, vaccines, cold-chain equipment, health and clothing kits, essential drugs, blankets high-energy biscuits, purification chemicals and water tanks	900 000b/
Yemen	Effects of situation between Iraq and Kuwait: provision of vaccines, health and drug kits and project support costs	100 000b/
West Bank/Gaza	Conflict situation (*intifadah*): continuing support to physiotherapy services for children, implemented jointly with United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East	100 000
	Subtotal	4 850 000

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CENTRAL/EASTERN EUROPE		
Albania	Economic crisis: advance procurement of food supplements, health kits and ORS	500 000b/
Bulgaria	Polio outbreak: provision of vaccines, needles and syringes	50 000b/
Yugoslavia	Armed conflict: provision of supplementary food, vaccines, emergency health kits, stove heaters, clothing and educational materials	300 000b/
	Subtotal	850 000
PROJECT SUPPORT	Funding support to strengthen management capacity at headquarters and in the field to respond to emergencies	573 100
	Total	11 649 600b/

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a/ The annual level of the Emergency Reserve Fund for 1991 was $7 million. The amounts allocated in excess of this ceiling were financed from replenishments to early allocations, as detailed below.

b/ Replenishment from special contributions amounted to $5,517,188 as agreed to by the following donors: (a) the Governments of Canada ($1,708,787) for Jordan, Iraq, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, Turkey, Ethiopia and Ecuador; Chile ($50,000) for Iraq and Kuwait; Denmark ($250,000) for Jordan; Switzerland ($200,000) for the Islamic Republic of Iran; (b) the National Committees of Germany ($439,130) for Turkey; Italy ($100,000) for Jordan; Japan ($424,514) for Iraq; Netherlands ($945,998) for Bulgaria, Iraq, Turkey and Albania; Spain ($50,000) for Yugoslavia; Luxembourg ($4,168) for Bangladesh; (c) UNDRO ($1,230,500) for Jordan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Syrian Arab Republic and Bangladesh; and (d) NGO (United States) ($50,000) for Iraq; unspent balance from ERF allocation for Yemen was reimbursed to ERF amounting to $64,091.

Annex II

DIVERSIONS/REPROGRAMMING OF COUNTRY PROGRAMME FUNDS AND SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS RECEIVED IN 1991 FOR EMERGENCY RELIEF AND REHABILITATION OPERATIONS a/

(In United States dollars)

Region/country	Nature of emergency/action taken	
	A. DIVERSIONS/REPROGRAMMING	
AFRICA		
Angola	Ongoing refielf and rehabilitation programme	103 100
Benin	Cholera outbreak: ORS infusion sets	10 000
Central African Republic	Conflict situation: essential drugs, logistics costs	25 000
Ethiopia	Ongoing emergency programme activities: water, nutritional, children in especially difficult circumstances	1 923 100
Kenya	Displaced persons from Somalia: essential drugs, water/sanitation supplies	25 000
Guinea	Displaced persons from Liberia: water supply and sanitation projects	1 500
Mauritania	Nutrition emergency: technical support and operational cost to government nutrition programme	76 100
Liberia	Armed conflict: ongoing relief and rehabilitation programme	1 059 400
Rwanda	Armed conflict: drugs and medical supplies	7 100
Mozambique	Ongoing relief and rehabilitation programmes	306 500
Sierra Leone	Armed conflict/displaced persons: emergency inputs in health, water supply/sanitation sectors	36 300
Namibia	Ongoing relief and rehabilitation programmes	24 600
Somalia	Armed conflict: emergency health, water supply/sanitation interventions	998 900
Zaire	Conflict situation: emergency health kits, vaccines and various medical supplies	380 000
	Subtotal, Africa	4 976 600
ASIA		
Afghanistan	Winter relief and ongoing emergency programme	4 976 600
Bangladesh	Cyclone: essential drugs, ORS, vaccines relief supplies	129 000
China	Floods: essential drugs	46 100

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ASIA (continued)		
Maldives	Typhoons/floods: medical supplies and essential drugs	25 000
Myanmar	Floods: essential drugs and medical supplies	63 300
Philippines	Volcanic eruption/floods: essential medicines, water purification items	135 700
Sri Lanka	Armed conflict: relief and rehabilitation activities for displaced persons (health, water supply/sanitation, nutrition interventions)	358 500
	Subtotal, Asia	4 901 000
AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN		
Ecuador	Cholera outbreak: ORS and anitbiotics	24 800
Guatemala	Earthquake: shelter materials, blankets, limited quantity of staple food	4 000
Peru	Cholera outbreak: water supply and sanitation intervention	11 800
Haiti	Conflict/economic sanction crisis: health/nutrition and water supply/sanitation interventions	137 500
	Subtotal, Americas	178 100
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA		
Iraq	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: emergency intervention in health	52 500
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: emergency intervention in health, water supply and sanitation	5 700
Jordan	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: relief and shelter needs for displaced persons from Kuwait	41 700
Syrian Arab Republic	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: water supply and sanitation, comfort and shelter items	4 900
Turkey	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: water-related emergency input	15 300
Sudan	Ongoing relief and rehabilitation programmes	5 500
Yemen	Cholera outbreak: ORS, medical supplies	22 000
West Bank	Ongoing physiotherapy services for intifadah victims	9 300
	Subtotal, Middle East and North Africa	156 900
	Total, Diversions/reprogramming	10 212 600

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B. SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

AFRICA

Angola	Ongoing emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes in health, water supply/sanitation, logistics, nutrition, relief and survival needs	6 569 200
Chad	Drought: Emergency programme in health/nutrition, water supply/sanitation, household food security, project support	57 700
Djibouti	Refugees from Somalia and Ethiopia: intensified EPI and ORT activities, provision of essential drugs and various medical supplies	517 800
Ethiopia	Ongoing emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes in health, water supply/sanitation, nutrition, relief and survival items	7 901 700
Côte d'Ivoire	Displaced persons from Liberia: emergency programme in health and nutrition, water supply and sanitation, household food security and basic education	1 218 400
Guinea	Displaced persons from Liberia: water supply and sanitation projects	1 329 300
Liberia	Ongoing relief and rehabilitation programmes in health, water supply/sanitation, nutrition, education and children in especially difficult circumstances	10 808 400
Madagascar	Cyclone: essential drugs, medical supplies	25 000
Mozambique	Ongoing emergency relief and rehabilitation programmes in rural resettlement, capacity-building, water supply/sanitation and health, including intervention for cholera outbreak	4 208 200
Malawi	Floods: essential drugs, medical supplies, water tanks and containers, shelter materials, blankets, water purification supplies	462 000
Mauritius	Cyclone: essential drugs, water supply items	4 000
Namibia	Ongoing emergency relief and rehabilitation programme in health and nutrition, water supply and sanitation	93 400
Somalia	Ongoing emergency programme on health and nutrition, water supply and sanitation, immunization and relief and survival items	6 513 000
Sierra Leone	Displaced persons from Liberia: interventions in health, water supply/sanitation, household food security, basic education	1 144 800
Zambia	Cholera outbreak: ORS and water/sanitation supplies	51 800
	Subtotal, Africa	40 904 700

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ASIA		
Afghanistan	Ongoing relief and rehabilitation programme and and winter relief project	2 876 900
Bangladesh	Cyclone: relief and rehabilitation activities in health, water supply and sanitation, education and project support costs	7 187 600
China	Floods: rehabilitation of schools, health centres, project support costs	480 600
Philippines	Volcanic eruption: provision of essential drugs, medical supplies, water-related supplies, shelter material and basic food items and rehabilitation programme activities in health and water supply	433 800
Myanmar	Floods: provision of essential drugs and medical supplies	6 800
Pakistan	Displaced persons from Afghanistan: emergency assistance for immunization, water supply and provision of essential drugs and medical supplies	446 400
Sri Lanka	Ongoing emergency programme for children in armed conflict and assistance to returnees from the Middle East	785 300
	Subtotal, Asia	12 217 400
AMERICAS		
Educador	Cholera outbreak: provision of ORS and antibiotics	34 800
Peru	Cholera outbreak: cholera control programme activities in health and water supply/sanitation	516 200
	Subtotal, Americas	551 000
MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA		
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: health, water supply/sanitation interventions	5 238 000
Iraq	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: emergency programmes in health, nutrition water supply/sanitation, project support activities	35 224 800
Jordan	Displaced persons from Kuwait: provision of relief items for shelter and basic needs, food/nutrition, essential drugs and vaccines, water supply-related items, sanitation supplies, project support costs	3 900 200
Kuwait	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: essential drugs and psychosocial technical support	99 200
Lebanon	Ongoing rehabilitation programmes in health, water supply and sanitation	698 300

Sudan	Operation Lifeline Sudan: ongoing relief and rehabilitation programme in health, water supply/sanitation, nutrition, immunization, household food security, basic education	29 825 600
Syrian Arab Republic	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: provision of essential drugs, medical supplies, high energy food water supply/sanitation supplies	877 900
Turkey	Situation between Iraq and Kuwait: provision of essential drugs, medical supplies, high energy food, immunization, water supply/sanitation supplies	2 170 500
	Subtotal, Middle East and North Africa	78 034 500
CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE		
Albania	Drought/economic crisis: health/nutrition interventions, health kits, ORS, food supplements, immunization	908 900
Bulgaria	Polio outbreak: vaccines, needles and syringes	50 000
Romania	Special emergency humanitarian assistance for institutionalized children. Provision of emergency health kits, essential drugs, supplementary food, hospital supplies	351 900
Russian	Health emergency: essential drugs and health kits	336 600
Yugoslavia	Armed conflict: baby parcels, vaccines, emergency health kits, stove heaters and project support activities	1 338 000
	Subtotal, Central and Eastern Europe	2 985 400
	Special contributions	134 693 000
	Total	144 905 600

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a/ Reported figures reflect allocation amounts only and not expenditures.

UNITED NATIONS

E

Economic and Social Council

Distr.
GENERAL

E/ICEF/1992/12
22 May 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND
Executive Board
1992 session

FOR INFORMATION

PROGRESS REPORT ON THE FOLLOW-UP TO THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN

SUMMARY

The present report provides information on plans prepared and actions taken by individual countries and the international community as of the end of March 1992 in response to the World Summit for Children. The status of preparation of national programmes of action as called for in the World Summit Plan of Action is presented along with other major post-Summit developments. These actions are also discussed from a regional perspective, including that of industrialized countries. Actions by the international community, including both the United Nations system and non-governmental organizations, are also presented. The paper concludes with a discussion of the next steps that should be taken to ensure that the promise of the World Summit is kept.

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I. BACKGROUND

1. The UNICEF Executive Board, in its decision 1991/10 (E/ICEF/1991/15), requested the Executive Director to submit at its regular session in 1992 a consolidated analysis of the plans and actions undertaken by individual countries and the international community as a follow-up of the World Summit for Children. Furthermore, the Board also invited the Executive Director to prepare and to circulate suggestions on how individual countries and international bodies might provide information on their plans and actions so as to facilitate the task accorded to UNICEF in preparing the present progress report pursuant to paragraph 35 (v) of the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children.

2. In July 1991, the Executive Director prepared and circulated to Member States "Suggested guidelines for the preparation of the progress report on the implementation of the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, and the Plan of Action for Implementing the World Declaration on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, adopted by the World Summit for Children" (E/ICEF/1991/17).

3. The present progress report is based largely on the feedback received from Member States as requested in the above document, as well as on reports received from international agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and UNICEF field offices. As expected, the major follow-up actions by Governments in 1991 were the preparation of national programmes of action (NPAs), as called for in paragraph 34 (i) of the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children. Accordingly, the major portion of this progress report centres on a preliminary analysis of NPAs.

4. It should be pointed out that the UNICEF Executive Board decision on this subject followed, and was inspired by, United Nations General Assembly resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990, in which the General Assembly urged all relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system, including their governing bodies, to provide support for the follow-up of the World Summit for Children. By the same resolution the Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to prepare a report on the implementation of the resolution for consideration by the Economic and Social Council and by the General Assembly at its forty-seventh session in 1992. The present report, in part, serves as an input to the Secretary-General's report.

II. HIGHLIGHTS OF FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

5. In terms of formal commitment at the national level, as of March 1992, an additional 65 heads of State and Government had joined the original 71 leaders who personally signed the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action. It is believed that no other document in the world bears the signatures of so many world leaders (136 heads of State and Government and 24 other senior ministers). As part of their commitment to "keep their promise" to children,

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Governments in at least 125 industrialized and developing countries are currently preparing NPAs to achieve the goals for children and development in the 1990s as agreed in the Summit Declaration (see annex I). In addition, in many countries, programmes of action are being prepared at provincial and municipal levels, as well as by NGOs and civic groups.

6. At regional and international levels, heads of State and Government have also collectively reaffirmed their commitment to follow through on the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit at such high-level meetings as the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC), the Organization of African Unity (OAU), Commonwealth, Francophone, Ibero-American and Central American Summits, involving heads of State and Government from all parts of the world.

7. At the international level, the United Nations system has taken a number of follow-up measures since the World Summit. By its resolution 45/217, referred to above, the General Assembly urged the relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system to take into account the goals, strategies and recommendations of the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action in carrying out their programmes. Pursuant to that General Assembly resolution, the Secretary-General wrote to the heads of all relevant agencies - including the Bretton Woods institutions - urging them to take appropriate action in their areas of competence. The heads of those agencies have responded to the Secretary-General indicating how they planned to respond to the appeal of the world leaders, the General Assembly and the Secretary-General. A number of governing bodies of the relevant United Nations agencies have held substantive discussions on the follow-up of the World Summit and have given specific instructions to their secretariats to support implementation and monitoring of the goals and strategies adopted by the Summit. Reports from field offices indicate that, in many countries, the relevant United Nations agencies are providing technical and financial support for the formulation and implementation of national and sectoral programmes of action.

8. In many countries, NGOs have been actively involved in the preparation and implementation of NPAs. In addition, many NGOs working in child-related areas have taken Summit follow-up actions within the framework of their own respective mandates: some have prepared specific programmes of action to implement and support the goals endorsed by the World Summit, and others have reviewed or restructured existing programmes to bring them in line with these goals.

9. The real test of effective follow-up is, of course, not more resolutions, declarations and plans, but action on the ground and programme results in terms of expanded coverage of services and measurable impact on the well-being of children. On that score, too, there has been tangible, if uneven, progress in all areas indicated in the Plan of Action. The achievement of the goal of reaching 80 per cent coverage in universal child immunization in 1990, thus saving the lives of over 3 million children a year, is one concrete illustration of progress. Similar, if less dramatic progress is being made in

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oral rehydration therapy, the promotion and protection of breast-feeding, the provision of a safe drinking water supply at low cost to thousands of under-served communities and accelerated expansion of early child care, basic education and literacy programmes. The growing acceptance of the concept of "corridors of peace" and "days of tranquillity" to protect children during armed conflicts and natural disasters is yet another sign of putting into practice the provisions of the World Summit Declaration and the Convention on the Rights of the Child to protect children in especially difficult circumstances.

10. Compared to many international conferences, the follow-up of the World Summit for Children continues to be quite impressive, though uneven. Four factors seem to account for the conscientious follow-up: (a) the high level of political commitment, as reflected in the attendance of the largest number of world leaders ever gathered at the Summit; (b) the existence of specific, measurable and time-bound goals developed through extensive consultation among competent United Nations agencies and other technical bodies; (c) the widespread awareness of and support for the goals and strategies adopted by the World Summit among activist NGOs, the mass media and other civic groups; and (d) the active support of the United Nations system, including UNICEF, in the follow-up of the Summit, especially in the process of formulating NPAs.

III. FOLLOW-UP AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL

A. Status of preparation of national programmes of action

11. As of the time of preparation of the present report (end of March 1992), the status of NPA preparation was as reported in table 1 below:

Table 1. Status of preparation of national programmes of action as of 31 March 1992 (number of countries)

	Finalized	In draft	Preparation under way	No action reported	Total
Asia	5	8	11	9	33
Latin America and the Caribbean	14	5	9	5	33
Middle East and North Africa	4	1	13	2	20
Sub-Saharan Africa	4	9	26	6	45
Industrialized countries	6	1	12	24	43
Total	3	24	71	46	174

12. These figures will be updated prior to the regular Executive Board session and reported in document E/ICEF/1992/CRP.16. Even the preliminary figures in table 1 above, however, demonstrate that the preparation of NPAs has been a truly global activity involving all major regions.

13. The above data refer to NPAs prepared by central Governments. In addition to these, a number of provincial, municipal and other local governments, NGOs and civic groups have prepared, or are preparing, their own programmes of action in accordance with paragraph 34 (i) of the World Summit Plan of Action. In some cases, they have been prepared prior to, or in tandem with, the formulation of the national programme, while in others they are being prepared subsequently.

14. For example, each province in Argentina, and each state in Mexico and Venezuela, is preparing its own plan to achieve the Summit goals by the year 2000.

15. For some countries, the formulation of NPAs came at a time of new initiatives or the rethinking of existing national policies. In Namibia, the NPA represented the first national multisectoral planning and strategy formulation in the life of that new country. The intensive formulation process by technical committees and subcommittees brought together representatives from a wide range of ministries to contribute to intersectoral understanding and inter-agency contacts at a formative stage of national development.

16. As important as it is that there is an official NPA document, the preparation process is equally vital. The high level of national attention

being given to this process is perhaps one of its most distinguishing features. Responsibility for overall coordination has been retained by the office of the President or Prime Minister in a number of countries such as Bolivia, China, Ecuador, Malaysia, the Niger, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Thailand and Uruguay, and by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in others such as the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and Kenya. A good indication of the seriousness with which Governments have taken their commitments as signatories to the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action is their willingness to consider the NPA budgetary implications. Ministries of finance and planning, or their equivalents, have been actively involved in the preparation of NPAs in such countries as Bolivia, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, Ghana, the Philippines and the Solomon Islands. Indeed, government institutions responsible for budgetary allocations have been involved in the preparation of NPAs in more than 50 developing countries.

17. As children's issues are multisectoral, the approach to preparing NPAs has typically been to create an intersectoral task force or commission with broad representation from both governmental and non-governmental organizations. NGOs, religious groups, universities, the private sector, labour and civic groups, as well as international organizations, have been involved in the preparation of NPAs in over 50 developing countries. NGOs are also strongly involved in the NPA preparation process in industrialized countries. To the degree that all sectors of society participate in NPA preparation, these same sectors are also likely to be actively involved in its implementation.

18. In the Dominican Republic, for example, a national commission was established to monitor implementation of the commitments made at the World Summit. The commission is composed of 53 government entities and 128 non-governmental, community and religious organizations that formed subcommittees to draft programmes of action in health, education, water supply and sanitation, child protection and social policy.

19. In Jamaica, the NPA is being developed as a joint Government/NGO effort, with 70 NGOs represented on the Coalition on the Rights of the Child involved with government ministries in the process. In Zimbabwe, 35 government institutions and 15 NGOs have been involved in NPA preparation. Extensive NGO involvement in the preparation process is also found in Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Ghana, Guatemala, Malaysia, Morocco, the Niger, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saint Lucia, the Solomon Islands, Thailand, the Sudan and Viet Nam.

20. In Venezuela, the 25 working groups set up to prepare the NPA involved 300 professionals from various disciplines and many organizations, both public and private. A 30-point action plan formulated by NGOs in Nepal was incorporated into the NPA. In Bahrain, Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yemen, NGO coalitions have influenced policy by voicing concern through advocacy, the media or conferences.

21. Children themselves were involved in preparing the NPA in Ecuador. As a direct result of their input, more serious attention to recreation was given in the NPA. The first-ever Caribbean Summit for Children, convened on 15 November 1991, in Barbados, gathered child delegates from 14 Caribbean countries who told their leaders about their goals and expectations for the future. The meeting was chaired by a 17-year-old and entirely conducted by children from 12 to 18 years of age. Recommendations were taken by the Prime Minister of Barbados to the next meeting of heads of State of the Caribbean Community.

22. As part of the NPA preparation process in Australia, the Government informed key NGOs about the proposed strategy to develop the country's NPA and sought their involvement in a two-stage process: to assist in determining specific priorities and strategies, and in a series of comprehensive national consultations on the content of a draft NPA.

23. International agencies, both multilateral and bilateral, have also collaborated with Governments and with one another in support of the NPA preparation process in many countries. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the World Health Organization (WHO), the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), UNICEF, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the World Food Programme (WFP), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Organization of American States, the Inter-American Center for Labor Administration, the Programa Regional del Empleo para América Latina y el Caribe (Regional Employment Programme for Latin America and the Caribbean), the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and a number of bilateral agencies are involved. UNDP was reported to be involved in at least 61 developing countries, WHO in 49, UNFPA in 36, UNESCO in 31 and the World Bank in 28. Bilateral agencies, including those in nearly all the major donor countries, have been involved in the preparation of NPAs in 25 developing countries.

B. Characteristics of national programmes of action

24. As with all long-term plans, NPAs need flexibility and a process for updating and review, and countries have taken different approaches to this reality. Some have produced plans that remain at the levels of goals, policy and strategies without going into detail regarding programmes or projects; others have entered into much greater programmatic detail. In either case, the majority of NPAs for which there is sufficient information make it clear that they are subject to improvement and revision as experience develops over the course of the decade. Some idea of the variety of approaches taken in this regard are found in table 2 below, which is based on only those NPAs sufficiently developed to enable them to be characterized.

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Table 2. Levels of detail in national programmes of action (number of countries)

	Policy/strategy level	Programme level	Project level
Asia	7	3	3
Latin America and the Caribbean	2	6	9
Middle East and North Africa	4	-	-
Sub-Saharan Africa	2	1	5
Industrialized countries	2	-	-
Total	17	10	17

25. For those NPAs that have remained at the level of policy and strategy, an eventual move to the level of programmes and projects is expected. This could occur in various ways. Subsequent versions of the NPA itself may be produced which delve into greater detail for all sectors; or each sector or sectoral grouping may be encouraged to develop its own programmes and projects according to the sector's own dynamism. In larger countries, in particular, an NPA that sets broad policy and strategy may be followed by progressively more detailed programmes on the part of individual states or provinces and so on down to district and local levels. In China, for instance, it is planned to have a national NPA, sectoral NPAs by each relevant ministry and NPAs for each province. Because of the diversity of country situations, there is no single blueprint for NPAs. What is important is that these programmes of action be viewed as a living process, rather than a once-for-all document and, indeed, the evidence available thus far suggests that this is by and large how they are being conceived.

C. Contents of national programmes of action

Interaction with national policy and development planning

26. It is logical that an NPA for children, with measurable goals for the period of a decade, should have a strong relationship with the process of national development planning wherever such a process is formally carried out. In 86 of the 109 developing countries for which information was available on this subject at the time of this writing, the goals and strategies of the NPA are, or are becoming, part of the overall development plan or development strategy document.

27. For countries with a strong tradition of multi-year development planning such as China, Egypt, India, Indonesia and the Philippines, the integration of NPA goals into those plans signifies a definite enhancement of the priorities given to children's programmes.

28. Some countries, such as Zimbabwe, are entering a process of revising their development plans and intend to incorporate NPA concepts into future plans. Where no overall plan exists, countries such as Bolivia, Honduras and Panama relate the NPA to national or sectoral activities or to other social and economic initiatives.

Adaptation of the goals to national reality: phasing and prioritization

29. In setting forth the goals for children and development in the 1990s, the World Summit Plan of Action stated in paragraph 6 that "these goals will first need to be adapted to the specific realities of each country in terms of phasing, priorities, standards and availability of resources". Most countries have adapted, or are in the process of adapting, the goals to correspond more closely to national conditions.

30. In many cases, this has resulted in goals that are more ambitious than those of the World Summit. For example, greater reductions than those proposed globally for infant mortality rates (IMRs) and under-five mortality rates for the year 2000 are programmed by Argentina, Brazil, Costa Rica, Malaysia, Mexico, Tunisia and Venezuela; and higher goals for basic education are targeted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Maldives, Malaysia, Mexico, Uruguay and Zimbabwe.

31. As may be expected, these are generally higher-income developing countries, but the list of more ambitious goals also includes a number of lower-income countries, such as Bangladesh and Sri Lanka, which have already made significant advances in some sectors and do not plan on remaining with the status quo.

32. On the other hand, it is a sign of the realism and seriousness with which this process of World Summit follow-up has been taken that, generally speaking, where targets for reaching the global goals enunciated by the World Summit have been extended beyond the year 2000, this has usually been done by countries in the least developed category. Some of those countries, while striving to reach the World Summit goals in a phased manner, have adapted the standards for service coverage by, for example, defining access to clean water supply in terms of a greater distance than that used by other countries.

Strategies

33. Since a strategy is a particular mix of policies, programmes and projects that define the path to be pursued towards the goals adopted and adapted by each country, each has its own strategy and no two are the same. Nevertheless, there are a number of strategy components that are common to many NPAs and which, when analysed, provide a composite picture of how the

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nations of the world intend to set about the effort to achieve the goals for children and development in the 1990s.

Overall strategy

34. Some strategies focus on broad national agendas such as putting child-related issues higher on the scale of political concerns, or making NPA goals the measure of social development. They may be seen to echo the World Summit's own theme of a "first call for children". Others begin with an emphasis on the broader economic environment, putting the NPA in the context of poverty reduction and/or of lessening the impact of adjustment on vulnerable groups.

35. Several strategy statements begin with the need for the broad involvement of many sectors of national society with collaboration among government, funding and technical cooperation agencies, and all the key groups such as the private sector, civic and religious groups, labour unions, NGOs, universities, etc., and making use of traditional and mass media to do so. Others focus on the need for implementation not just at the national level, but at provincial, district and local levels as well, stressing the theme of decentralization, one that is encountered very frequently in the presentation of NPA strategies. This is elaborated in various terms such as those of micro-planning and strengthening the role and power of local entities. Community participation, community empowerment and community management are all phrases continually repeated in NPA strategy statements. Other NPAs speak in terms of awareness creation and empowerment of the family.

36. Many NPAs stress that the needs of children and women are intersectoral and that strategies for dealing with them must be intersectoral as well. Others speak of more targeted service delivery linked with closer monitoring of the groups in greatest need. Indeed, disparity reduction, in a broad sense, may be the component that features most commonly in NPA strategies. This is expressed in various ways such as the elimination of social inequalities; the concentration of resources in areas of greatest need; priority to less developed areas; closer monitoring of vulnerable, unreached groups; focus on the needy; priority for the poorest; and the reduction of gender disparities.

37. Human development, human capital development and capacity-building are also recurrent themes in NPA strategies.

38. In a number of countries, such as Bangladesh, Botswana, Ghana and Pakistan, the strategy has been to link the NPA to the human development initiative, as supported by UNDP, often with UNICEF collaboration. The Convention on the Rights of the Child provides the main strategy framework in several others, such as Colombia, Jamaica, Malaysia, Maldives and Venezuela. In the case of Madagascar, the NPA is being prepared as part of the national environment programme on the premise that the child is both actor and beneficiary of an improved environment. In another case, that of Yemen, the

NPA is being formulated in conjunction with the development of a national population policy.

39. Indicative of a broad awareness of serious internal and external resource constraints is the fact that many NPAs address the issues of optimizing the use of resources, better management of existing resources and the need for low-cost alternatives and local resource generation in their strategy statements.

Sectoral strategies

40. Health strategies place a strong emphasis on (a) the need to strengthen primary health care (PHC) services and extend their coverage; (b) shifting the focus from curative to preventive actions; (c) community involvement in PHC; and (d) better targeting on those diseases that result in the highest mortality and on geographical areas with the highest child mortality rates.

41. Nutrition strategies in some countries emphasize food production and distribution and household food security; in others, the focus is on dealing with the economic, social, biological and cultural causes of malnutrition; and still others stress the need for particular programmes such as growth monitoring, complementary feeding and the dissemination of food and nutrition information. The reduction of women's work burden is also seen as an important component of strategies for improved nutrition.

42. Strategies in the water supply and sanitation sectors emphasize the strengthening or reorganization of the agencies responsible for the delivery of services, along with national and local capacity-building; decentralization of services planning and delivery with the participation of the community, especially women; appropriate low-cost technologies; and qualitative as well as quantitative improvements in water supply and sanitation.

43. Education strategies focus on aiding minority, indigenous and hard-to-reach children in underdeveloped areas and on reducing gender disparities in school enrolment and completion. Education and curriculum reform is also frequently cited as a major priority, together with efforts to make schools more accessible to children while improving the quality of preschool and early childhood education.

44. Legal and policy reforms receive high priority in strategies for children in especially difficult circumstances which stress amending existing laws or enacting new ones to protect in particular street children and working children. Preventive and rehabilitative programmes for abused children, as well as special efforts to assist children in war zones or those suffering the effects of nearby conflicts, are emphasized. Priority is also placed on de-institutionalizing programmes for the disabled and educating families to care for such children. The early identification of children in especially difficult circumstances to permit quick intervention is another strategy component.

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Resource requirements

45. At some point in the planning process, it is normal to expect that there will be an effort to estimate the costs of achieving the objectives of the plan. However, those countries that prepare national development plans generally do so for a period shorter than 10 years, and are more accustomed, if they estimate costs for the social sectors at all, to do so in terms of the inputs required to maintain and extend the types of social and human services currently being provided, rather than unit costs of achieving impact objectives such as specific reductions in mortality rates. A number of countries also have more experience in estimating costs for some sectors than for others. It is no surprise, then, that NPAs so far received tend, as a group, to be incomplete or weak in the area of estimating the costs of achieving the goals that they have established. There are, however, some notable exceptions, such as Burkina Faso, Central American countries, Cuba, Ecuador, Nepal, Pakistan, Paraguay, Peru, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Viet Nam.

46. The overall situation with regard to estimates of resource requirements in NPAs is presented in regional terms in table 3 below.

Table 3. Countries estimating resource requirements for achieving the decade goals for children

	Asia	Latin America and the Caribbean	Middle East and North Africa	Sub-Saharan Africa	Industrialized countries
All goals	7	14	2	7	-
Some goals:					
Health	4	2	2	7	-
Education	5	-	2	5	-
Water supply and sanitation	5	1	2	5	-
Nutrition	2	-	-	2	-
Children in especially difficult circumstances	1	-	-	1	-

47. Completed NPAs and those in preparation address the issue of the financial resources needed to achieve the Summit goals in different ways. The most concrete and detailed estimates are found, as may be expected, in the more finalized NPAs, many of which provide sectoral resource requirements to the year 2000. In some NPAs, detailed financial information is included down to the project level.

48. NPAs in draft form address the issue either by presenting cost estimates for priority sectors already identified or by designating ministries or focal points that have the responsibility for future estimates. Some NPAs that relate financial requirements to already existing national budgets indicate that shortfalls will have to be met either through external assistance or through the better utilization and rationalization of current programmes.

49. A number of NPAs indicate that estimates of resources have to await the formulation of the next government development plan and the consequent budgetary process, or legislative appropriations, or the actions of the sectoral ministries.

50. For certain countries, estimating the financial resources for achieving impact goals has proved to be a new and complex process, but the NPA is providing an opportunity to develop methodologies and experience for the future.

51. An analysis of the 18 NPAs received by the first week of March 1992, which include either complete or partial cost estimates, shows a considerable variation in the size of the estimates relative to gross domestic product (GDP). Most, however, fall within a range of 1 to 8 per cent of GDP, and the mean of these 18 estimates is 3 per cent of GDP. Bearing in mind that the 1991 UNDP Human Development Report recommends a figure of 5 per cent for the "human expenditure ratio", i.e., the percentage of national income devoted to human priority concerns, one can appreciate that these estimates are, by and large, not unrealistic. Achieving the education goals has the highest estimated cost at 37 per cent of the estimated totals, while water supply/sanitation averages 22 per cent and health 18 per cent.

Resource mobilization

Reallocation of domestic budgets

52. Paragraph 34 (iii) of the World Summit Plan of Action urges each country "to re-examine in the context of its particular national situation, its current national budget, ... to ensure that programmes aimed at the achievement of goals for the survival, protection and development of children will have a priority when resources are allocated".

53. At the time the present document was prepared, 31 developing countries had fulfilled that commitment in terms of making a serious effort to reallocate resources primarily towards basic education and PHC and to give the next priority to water supply/sanitation and nutrition programmes. The situation as regards numbers of countries by region is presented in table 4.

Table 4. Countries restructuring national budgets and aid allocations

Number of countries restructuring budgets		Asia (6)	Latin America and the Caribbean (14)	Middle East and North Africa (4)	Sub-Saharan Africa (7)	Industrialized countries (0)
SECTORS BENEFITED	PHC	3	6	3	3	-
	Education	2	6	3	6	-
	Nutrition	1	4	1	3	-
	Water supply/ sanitation	2	2	2	3	-
	Children in especially difficult circumstances	-	3	2	2	-

Note: Totals of each column do not agree with the number of countries for that column because several countries have allocated resources for more than one sector.

54. It is too soon to obtain a picture of the orders of magnitude of resource shifts represented by these reallocations, but some examples may shed light on what is taking place or is planned.

55. NPA preparation has already contributed to increased government budgets for health and education in El Salvador and the Philippines. El Salvador's announced increase in its education and health budgets by 20 and 25 per cent, respectively, can be seen as a concrete example of the "peace dividend" being used in favour of children. Response to the World Summit and the process of preparing its NPA have triggered a 30 per cent increase in Egypt's social sector budget.

The challenge for international cooperation

56. While a substantial part of the cost of meeting the goals for children in developing countries will have to be met by the countries themselves, some additional support from the international community will also be necessary. This can be provided in two ways.

57. First, and most importantly, the international community can provide developing countries with a favourable policy environment, with opportunities and support to develop themselves quickly and to grow rapidly. Financing programmes to meet the goals for children in a rapidly growing economy is much easier to accomplish than in a stagnating economy. In their World Declaration

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on the Survival, Protection and Development of Children, the world leaders gathered at the Summit observed that "economic conditions will continue to influence greatly the fate of children, especially in developing nations. For the sake of the future of all children, it is urgently necessary to ensure or reactivate sustained and sustainable economic growth and development in all countries and also to continue to give urgent attention to an early, broad and durable solution to the external debt problems facing developing debtor countries". The signers of the Declaration then went on to commit themselves to work for a global attack on poverty and to promote growth and development in all States through national action and international cooperation, recognizing that this "calls for transfers of appropriate additional resources to developing countries as well as improved terms of trade, further trade liberalization and measures for debt relief".

58. In this regard, follow-up of the World Summit for Children, a year and a half after the above Declaration, has so far not been very substantial. The economic recession in the industrialized countries, together with the upheaval in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, have had a depressing effect on possibilities for more rapid growth in developing countries, and hopes for improved terms of trade for developing countries remain mired in the stalled General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) negotiations. While it must be said that the debt crisis as a whole has yet to be resolved, various initiatives in the direction of debt alleviation and debt forgiveness have been taken in a number of countries that might be interpreted as signs that some more general resolution of the situation is in the offing. In the more specific case of debt relief for children, the Netherlands, for example, has been involved in an initiative involving debt swaps in Ecuador, Honduras and Jamaica. In addition, a number of commercial banks have been supporting debt buy-back mechanisms.

Restructuring of official development assistance

59. The second way for the international community to support the achievement of the goals for children in developing countries is to provide more resources specifically for programmes that have these goals as their objective. This does not necessarily imply a major increase in overall official development assistance (ODA), although such an increase, as one of the goals of the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, is much to be desired. It does, however, signify that a larger portion of bilateral or multilateral aid should be devoted to human development in general, and that within the "social" sectors such as health, education, water supply and sanitation, a larger percentage should be devoted to PHC, basic education and low-cost water supply and sanitation. Paragraph 34 (iii) of the World Summit Plan of Action urged donor countries to examine their development assistance budgets "to ensure that programmes aimed at the achievement of the goals for the survival, protection and development of children will have priority when resources are allocated".

60. There are signs that such reallocations are taking place or being planned for, as indicated in the section on the NPAs of industrialized countries

below, but the available information is still insufficient to draw substantative conclusions on this point.

61. One positive development in this sphere is the evaluation of aid flows taking place within the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), with the cooperation of UNDP and UNICEF. In the past, it was difficult to determine the level and trends of support to human development priorities, including programmes for the well-being of children and women, because of the way in which ODA was reported. The 1991 Human Development Report reported that the proportion of ODA allocated to social sectors was about 23 per cent, and of this, aid allocated to priority areas such as PHC, basic education, family planning and rural water supply was only about 37 per cent, while observing that the OECD database used as a basis for this calculation was "notably incomplete". This project is helping to standardize such reporting and to make it more specific, thus enabling countries and the international community to know what proportion of aid is contributing directly to the achievement of the goals for children.

Mobilization of additional resources

62. Some NPAs are proposing innovative ways to finance the achievement of their goals for children. These include measures to modernize and increase efficiency in the public sector, improved tax collection mechanisms, new forms of taxation and more efficient collection of existing taxes, user charges and other cost recovery mechanisms, debt swaps for social investment and greater involvement of the private sector.

Social mobilization

63. Families, communities, local Governments, NGOs, social, cultural, religious, business and other institutions, including the mass media, are encouraged by paragraph 34 (iv) of the World Summit Plan of Action to play an active role in efforts to achieve the goals for children and development in the 1990s. "All forms of social mobilization", according to the Plan of Action, "including the effective use of the great potential of the new information and communication capacity of the world, should be marshalled to convey to all families the knowledge and skills required for dramatically improving the situation of children".

64. As noted above, a broad range of institutions from all sectors of society have participated, or are participating, in the NPA preparation process. The media are involved in Argentina, and in Chile a nationwide social mobilization campaign entitled "Let our children live" secured the support of local government authorities, public institutions and NGOs. In Ecuador, the committee for NPA preparation included the Ecuadorian Association of Television Channels and the Ecuadorian press and radio associations.

65. According to the Bhutan NPA, all communication media and channels will be involved in implementation. Linkages will be established among various

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government communications entities to build professional capacity in advocacy for women's and children's issues. Social communication, via both modern and traditional media, is one of the major strategic activities of the Pakistan NPA as well.

66. The Netherlands Ministry for Development Cooperation has undertaken a number of measures to mobilize popular support for its strong commitment to aid for children in developing countries. Songs by internationally popular rock music groups on nationwide radio, attractive materials explaining the nation's development cooperation budget for use in school, and a colourful "children's passport" translating the legal language of the Convention on the Rights of the Child into words and images that Dutch children can understand are only some of the social mobilization actions being carried out in the Netherlands as a direct response to the World Summit.

67. In Latin America, the theme of the 1990s as a decade for paying the "social debt" to children and other vulnerable groups has been the subject of media focus. Materials being prepared for the next Ibero-American Summit will focus on the issue of NPAs and the social debt. Themes such as "a decade to pay the social debt" will be featured in a Children of the Americas multi-media product to be launched in July 1992.

Monitoring

68. Paragraph 34 (vi) of the World Summit Plan of Action says that "each country should establish appropriate mechanisms for the regular and timely collection, analysis and publication of data required to monitor relevant social indicators relating to the well-being of children ... which record the progress being made towards the goals set forth in this Plan of Action and corresponding national plans of action". This injunction is being taken seriously as countries prepare their NPAs.

69. One of the first steps in this direction is for the NPA to determine its 1990 baseline for each of the decade goals. Many NPAs contain tables that lay out in parallel columns the relevant indicators for each of the goals, the current status as regards each indicator, the source of information and the target for the year 2000. Gaps in current data are indicated and measures to fill the gaps are identified. In some cases, such as those of Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Maldives, Morocco, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Suriname and Tunisia, special surveys and situation analyses are being carried out to help establish baseline data for the NPA. In others, such as Bolivia, Botswana and Mozambique, a forthcoming national census is being strengthened to provide data relevant to the NPA baseline.

70. The quantity and quality of existing data for monitoring vary a great deal from country to country. Where existing systems are deemed to be adequate, it may be simply a question of holding periodic reviews as in China and Viet Nam, or to designate a national focal point as in Thailand, to ensure that the available information is being used for policy discussions and decision-making. Most monitoring systems, however, are seen by the countries

themselves to be deficient in one respect or another; hence new mechanisms are being established to complement and/or coordinate what already exists. New monitoring mechanisms are being contemplated, for example, in Bangladesh, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Guinea, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Tunisia, Yemen and Zimbabwe. In Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba and Equatorial Guinea, existing systems are being strengthened or restructured to meet the requirements of the decade goals.

71. Several countries are contemplating new or strengthened monitoring systems at subnational levels; this seems particularly true of African countries. Burundi is developing a system in which village chiefs will register births and deaths. The United Republic of Tanzania is complementing its national monitoring system, which is based on surveys and administrative records, with a community-based system to gather information on child mortality, nutrition, malaria, diarrhoea incidence and education. Mozambique is establishing a district-level information base, while Madagascar is holding journées de réflection (days of reflection) by province to obtain more qualitative information on the impact of the environment on children and women. Thailand, which conducts a basic minimum needs survey in all villages each year, is revising its list of basic needs to make it more inclusive of World Summit goals.

72. In the Niger, the Committee for the Survival, Protection and Development of the Child plans to issue a yearly document updating the situation of its children.

73. At the international level, a number of steps have been taken to assist countries in their task of monitoring progress towards their decade goals for children, as well as to fulfil the requirement of paragraph 35 (iv) of the World Summit Plan of Action relevant to monitoring the Plan's implementation at the global level.

74. An Inter-Agency Working Group on Social Monitoring involving UNDP, UNFPA, the United Nations Statistical Office and UNICEF organized monitoring missions to Ecuador, Kenya, Mali, Mexico and the Philippines to assess the situation as regards social monitoring and to make recommendations for future action at national and international levels. Consultations between UNICEF and WHO have been held with a view to building consensus on indicators for measuring progress towards the health-related goals of the World Summit, and a note on this subject has been prepared for discussion at the UNICEF/WHO Joint Committee on Health Policy. A joint WHO/UNICEF project has been launched for the systematic monitoring of the water supply and sanitation sectors during the 1990s. Discussions are also being held among international agencies dealing with education on appropriate indicators for monitoring the education goals, especially indicators for measuring educational achievement. Inter-agency consultations have led to consensus on monitoring the breast-feeding goals at the household level, and a WHO report has been issued on this subject. A preliminary WHO document on measuring iodine deficiency disorders (IDD) will hopefully be followed by similar work on other micronutrient deficiencies. UNICEF and ILO co-sponsored a high-level workshop

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in Santiago, Chile, in September 1991, on monitoring poverty indicators - a complementary part of the process of monitoring progress towards reaching the Summit goals. A series of UNICEF regional and headquarters meetings have been held to assess the status of Summit follow-up in general and, in particular, on the development of monitoring mechanisms.

Research

75. The Plan of Action itself noted that "progress toward the goals endorsed in the Summit Declaration and Plan of Action could be further accelerated through further research and development"; the document goes on to request Governments, industry and academic institutions to increase their efforts in both basic and operational research. Except for monitoring and evaluation, Governments have not so far reported many specific research activities in the context of follow-up of the World Summit. It may be noted, however, that the Children's Vaccine Initiative has been making steady progress and that efforts to develop vaccines against malaria and acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) have been accelerated. A few developing countries report that research is expected to be one of the areas to be considered in the restructuring of national budgets and aid allocations. The NPA of Finland is noteworthy in this respect. The Academy of Finland plans to begin a programme of childhood research in 1992 aimed at increasing and diversifying research in the field and focusing on the folllowing four areas: childhood as a social and cultural phenomenon; the everyday life of children; early childhood and interaction; and the quality of children's lives. The issue of research will also be considered in the NPA of Australia, including details of the significant research efforts currently under way in the country.

IV. OTHER MAJOR POST-SUMMIT DEVELOPMENTS

76. In addition to the preparation of NPAs and other national and international activities that are direct consequences of the World Summit for Children, it is important to mention a series of developments, inspired in whole or in part by the World Summit, or synergistically related to it, that contribute to the pursuit of the Summit's goals and objectives.

A. Convention on the Rights of the Child

77. Foremost among those developments is the unprecedented ratification, by 114 countries as of early April 1992, of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. "We will work to promote the earliest possible ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child", pledged the signers of the World Summit Declaration, and indeed the great majority of them have promoted its ratification. The application of all the principles of the Convention is a longer-term undertaking, and it will be some time before the majority of countries fully achieve the standards it sets for the protection of children's rights. All of the goals and objectives of the World Summit for Children are enshrined in the Convention as rights that States parties have

agreed to implement "to the maximum extent of their available resources, and where needed, within the framework of international cooperation" (art. 4; cf. 24 (4) and 28 (1 and 3)). Thus, NPAs provide an operational framework for applying many of the principles of the Convention and define specific measurable objectives that will help countries to assess their progress towards achieving the standards set by the Convention. The implementation of NPAs, therefore, supports the longer-term objective of full implementation of the principles of the Convention and gives meaning to the overall purpose of the World Summit for Children - "to give every child a better future".

B. Basic education and literacy

78. The World Conference on Education for All, held in Jomtien, Thailand, six months prior to the World Summit for Children, provided a new charter for basic education and literacy. The World Summit reaffirmed the Jomtien goals, and the follow-up activities to achieve their common goals are the same. Many countries responded directly to the Jomtien challenge with concrete efforts to reassess their basic educational needs, define strategies and mobilize resources. National round tables were held in 22 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, 3 in the Middle East and 12 in Asia, usually with the cooperation of UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP and the World Bank. Similar meetings were held in 10 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. All the round tables have focused on assessing basic learning needs; building alliances among sectoral ministries, NGOs and the private sector; strategy formulation; and identifying donor support. Key priorities in basic education for Africa were defined at the Sixth Conference of Ministers of Education (Dakar, July 1991); for Asia by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) programme of action; and for Latin America and the Caribbean by the Education Ministers' meeting at Quito (April 1991). National education plans to achieve the "education for all" goals have been prepared by Algeria, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chile, China, Djibouti, the Gambia, Ghana, India, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Nepal, the Niger, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Swaziland, Thailand, Tunisia, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania. Most of those countries also increased their budgetary allocation for primary education. Inter-agency cooperation was greatly strengthened through meetings and working groups among the heads of agencies that sponsored the Jomtien Conference, through the UNESCO/UNICEF Joint Committee on Education and through exchanges of information among international and bilateral agencies.

C. Health

79. The health goals of the World Summit for Children are goals already adopted by the World Health Assembly and are necessary conditions for reaching the Alma Ata objective of "Health for All by the Year 2000". Many people and organizations have been working for their achievement since long before the World Summit, but the latter has helped to give new impetus and precision to this effort. Acute respiratory infections (ARI) are now recognized as the

leading cause of child deaths in developing countries, and one of the supporting health goals of the World Summit is the reduction by one third of deaths due to ARI in children under five years old. In December 1991, some 400 leading international public health officials from 60 countries, including 20 health ministers, met in Washington and agreed on a six-point programme to achieve that goal which would include, e.g., the training and supervision of health care workers; educating parents to recognize danger signs; accelerating the development of new vaccines to prevent pneumonia; improving childhood immunization rates; and taking action against domestic air pollution. Collaborative action to deal with the AIDS crisis has also accelerated since the World Summit. With WHO as the lead agency, countries, bilateral donors, UNICEF and other international organizations have increased funding, training and social mobilization to deal with this threat to children, families and nations.

D. Nutrition

80. The virtual elimination of IDD and vitamin A deficiency and the reduction of iron deficiency anaemia in women by one third of 1990 levels are three of the supporting goals of the World Summit in the field of nutrition. The international policy conference on "Ending hidden hunger" held at Montreal, Canada, in October 1991, attended by representatives of more than 50 countries, together with scientists and representatives of international agencies, was a direct follow-up action to the World Summit in this field. The conference heightened awareness of the importance of these "supernutrients" and laid the groundwork for a broad alliance of Governments, agencies, institutions and industry to accelerate action to achieve these goals. The empowerment of all women to breast-feed their children exclusively for four to six months and to continue breast-feeding, with complementary food, well into the second year is another of the supporting goals of the World Summit. In 1991, WHO and UNICEF launched the "baby-friendly" hospital initiative aimed at rewarding with the "baby-friendly" certification those maternity services which fulfil the "Ten steps to successful breastfeeding" proposed in the WHO-UNICEF Joint Statement on Protecting, Promoting and Supporting Breastfeeding. Infant formula manufacturers have agreed to support the initiative by ending the distribution of free or subsidized formula to hospitals and maternity facilities by the end of 1992. This initiative is being implemented at the country level in such a way that it accelerates the promotion, support and protection of breast-feeding and gradually makes hospitals more PHC-oriented.

E. Water supply and sanitation

81. The World Summit goal of universal access to safe drinking water and sanitary means of excreta disposal was the goal of the International Drinking Water Supply and Sanitation Decade (1981-1990). Although solid progress was made during that decade, the goal was not achieved. It has been re-targeted for the year 2000 in various forums, including the World Summit for Children.

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A Water and Sanitation Collaborative Council, to provide a global forum for discussing and advancing the achievement of this goal, was inaugurated in Oslo, Norway, during 1991. In January 1992, the International Conference on Water and the Environment, held in Ireland, adopted guiding principles that can positively affect the achievement of the water supply and sanitation goals. Two of those principles relate directly to accelerating sustainable increases in coverage by underlining the need for a truly participatory approach in sector planning and development and stressing the central role that women can play in the management of the facilities provided.

F. Children in especially difficult circumstances

82. The subject of children in especially difficult circumstances has received special attention in several ways since the World Summit. The World Summit request that periods of tranquillity and special relief corridors be observed for the benefit of children where war and violence are still taking place was heeded, at least partially, in Angola, Ethiopia, Iraq, the Sudan and Yugoslavia. In November 1991, a Conference on Humanitarian Cease-fires: Peace-building for Children, was held at Ottawa, Canada, bringing together representatives of peace and relief organizations from many countries, as well as experts with long experience in negotiations and operations, to provide assistance to children caught in war situations. Regional and global networks of NGOs have greatly increased their actions on behalf of working children and street children and have begun to focus on problems that previously received less attention, such as child prostitution and exploitation in domestic work, particularly affecting girls. ILO has developed a major new programme on child labour, including the establishment of a new task force and inter-agency consultative group. UNESCO has also become an active partner in addressing the educational needs of working children and street children.

G. Urban children

83. The rapid growth of urban populations in developing countries, accompanied by an escalation in the number of slums and shanty towns, has highlighted the need for increased attention to the special needs of urban children. An initiative first launched by the Mayors of Italy led to an International Colloquium of Mayors as Defenders of Children held at Dakar, Senegal, in January 1992. As a result of the colloquium, mayors all over the world are being called upon to commit themselves to achieving the World Summit goals for children in their municipalities, and several municipalities are preparing their own programmes of action for children. Children's committees have been set up in each municipal council of Tunisia. Mexico City demonstrated its commitment to the World Summit by moving swiftly to assure universal child immunization (UCI).

H. Women and girl children

84. The World Summit made a firm promise to women and girl children that must be kept in the current decade. The Declaration enunciated a commitment to "work to strengthen the role and status of women". This was amplified in paragraph 15 of the Plan of Action which acknowledged that the enhancement of the status of women and their equal access to developmental resources and opportunities constitute a valuable contribution to a nation's social and economic development. The Plan made the fundamental recognition for the first time that efforts for the enhancement of women's status and their role in development must begin with the girl child. SAARC countries have proclaimed the 1990s as the decade of the girl child. Many NPAs are showing a new sensitivity to gender disparities, incorporating measures to obtain previously unavailable gender-specific data in their NPA monitoring systems and including special measures to reduce gender disparities in NPA programmes and projects.

V. REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

85. Tables 1 to 4 above and annex II at the end of the present report show that countries in all regions of the world have responded actively to the challenges and commitments of the World Summit for Children. But some regions as a whole have moved more rapidly than others, and there has been a series of measures taken that may be said to characterize certain regions so that a brief overview of World Summit follow-up by region is in order. A more detailed analysis is provided for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in order to convey some of the richness of a regional analysis, but for the sake of brevity developments in other regions are treated more succinctly.

A. Middle East and North Africa

86. The preparation of NPAs as a follow-up to the World Summit gathered momentum throughout the MENA region in late 1991. By early 1992, countries that had completed their NPAs included Djibouti, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Sudan and Tunisia. Two of the largest countries in the MENA region - Egypt and Turkey - as well as Jordan, Morocco, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, are expected to complete their NPAs by mid-1992.

87. The situation between Iraq and Kuwait initially slowed down follow-up to the World Summit for Children as a priority concern, but since late 1991 it has in fact served as a catalyst for national and regional institutions to re-examine national priorities and actions as they affect the well-being of children and women. Slowest in the preparation process of NPAs have been the countries of the Persian Gulf region themselves, where follow-up action started in earnest only in December 1991 with a subregional review of progress and priorities under the aegis of the Gulf Council of Ministers. Changes of government through smooth national elections in Turkey and contested, dramatic voting in Algeria hampered progress in both countries, although prospects for early completion of the NPA look especially good in Turkey.

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88. NPAs available to date, as well as outlines of NPAs from the remaining countries, indicate that the region has a well-established, ongoing process of a post-Summit framework for action. The Summit goals have been adapted to each country's situation and the Convention on the Rights of the Child has been incorporated into the review process. All national programmes have achieved high-level endorsement. The process of adapting national plans to Summit goals is under way, and intersectoral alliances in support of children have been strengthened. Disparity reduction objectives have become a national commitment, but need further strengthening as the programming process develops.

89. Of particular concern, however, is the lack of attention to resource requirements. To date, few countries report serious plans for restructuring national budgets in favour of children. Overall, the participation of NGOs and the collaboration of United Nations agencies, as well as bilateral donors, could be further enhanced. In some instances, there is an observed tendency to draw back from fully exploring the Summit Plan of Action, by noting that its goals and objectives are already contained in the Government's national plan. NPAs at the current stage are frameworks that have yet to become programmes, although implementation has already begun with the process of alliance building.

90. Completed NPAs in the MENA region (Djibouti, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Sudan and Tunisia) as well as those very close to completion (Morocco and Yemen), share a number of expected and innovative features. These include: (a) reaffirmation of child survival goals, with increased concern over the capacity to maintain the momentum of the 1980s; (b) a focus on the need to improve basic education, its content and relevance, as well as school attendance and literacy, especially among girls; (c) a new, open exploration of the disparities between regions and gender, along with setting goals to reduce such disparities; (d) new problem statements on children in especially difficult circumstances, particularly those displaced by war, orphans and street children; and (e) population growth and high maternal mortality viewed as national concerns, with family planning now openly discussed as a national policy to benefit the health of mothers and children.

91. The Tunisian NPA goes farthest in its focus on reducing regional disparities, while the Moroccan NPA breaks new ground with gender disparities as its overriding thrust. The Sudan NPA establishes a decentralized implementation framework where local communities as well as regional governors are expected to take the initiative, using a new social welfare fund to reach the most deprived communities.

92. In a region heavily hit by the global recession and the continued after-shock of the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, the absence, except in the case of the Sudan, of an adequate analysis of budgetary implications and fiscal concerns in the first stage of post-Summit planning for children highlights the need for doing so in the further elaboration of NPAs. The NPAs of Egypt, Tunisia and the Syrian Arab Republic indicate that the Governments are working on cost estimates for reaching the goals, and the NPA of Morocco

contains a section on the need for restructuring budget allocations, especially in the education sector. The setting of priorities and resource allocation decisions - how much is spent, for what, by whom and with what benefits, as well as what can be funded with limited resources - will need increased emphasis. There is as yet little evidence of restructuring being contemplated. Another lacuna is inadequate linkages with the private sector, which receives little attention in NPAs.

93. NPAs being prepared in the MENA region reflect improved government capacity to define problems, use information appropriately and select reasonable strategies. The decade of the 1980s in the region saw significant improvements in public health surveillance, management information systems and special surveys and studies aimed at assessing the status of children and improving delivery systems. In those areas where data actually affected decisions - primarily child survival - NPAs of the MENA region reflect greater realism in their problem description, quantification of national objectives and selection of benchmark indicators than in child development, including education.

94. It is thus not surprising that the child survival goals head the list in NPA development, with sectoral goals such as the elimination of measles and the eradication of polio and neonatal tetanus among the most developed. Tunisia reflects the continued ambitions of most MENA countries to reduce child mortality below global targets, but recognizes limitations in maintaining the pace of decline experienced in the 1980s. On the other hand, countries such as Djibouti, the Sudan and Yemen will find it an insurmountable task to reach their IMR targets for the year 2000 unless there is a dramatic reversal in the dim prospects for the Horn of Africa.

95. The status of female literacy and girls' attendance at school marks the region's severest challenge, but NPAs in preparation handle the assessment of status and prospects in this area with weaker reality testing. The goals set to eradicate female illiteracy will require massive efforts.

96. The process of preparing NPAs showed a range of approaches. Whereas there was a ready consensus on goal setting in most low-income countries, in the countries of the Persian Gulf region, where the process is still new, some Governments regarded the World Summit goals as set for the less developed countries, i.e., that they had been achieved in the Persian Gulf region. There is also a certain reluctance in some countries to face sensitive issues outside those of child survival.

97. Among the most dynamic elements in the NPA preparation process have been the involvement of NGOs, professional groups, research institutions and private associations. Their variety reflects the vigour of democratization and new political energy in Egypt, Jordan and Tunisia. Yemen has had the highest concentration of United Nations agencies, bilateral and World Bank involvement. To date, each of the NPAs has had the personal involvement of the head of State or his immediate representatives. Throughout the region, the process of NPA preparation has brought a serious re-examination of the

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place of children in current national plans. This offers a special opportunity for a factual review of such sensitive areas as disparities between girls and boys and the plight of children in especially difficult circumstances.

98. Throughout the MENA region, the capacity of planning and statistical offices to monitor the condition of children is moderate to weak. In addition, these offices suffer from a drawback common to all such institutions - they have no direct involvement in programmes for children. The process of preparing NPAs may pull them into the mainstream of concern where requests for special tables on children are no longer seen as simply another in a series of bureaucratic demands to be satisfied. There are also good prospects for networking technical cooperation in monitoring and national capacity-building within the region. This has already worked well in the expanded programme on immunization, and modalities for strengthening these networks further are currently under way.

99. Subregional MENA groupings, such as the Gulf Cooperation Council and the Maghreb Union, established a precedent of interregional support for monitoring the condition of children in the late 1980s. NPAs promise to strengthen and broaden these alliances in new directions, such as Morocco's national commitment to monitoring sex differences across all its priority goals for the 1990s, Tunisia's mapping of regional disparities and pockets of poverty, as well as the requirement placed on the National Council for Children in the Sudan to prepare regular status reports for the President on the condition of children and women. Discussions under way with the Gulf Cooperation Council indicate that monitoring will make up the primary thrust of NPAs for Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. A shared monitoring system for all those countries is being discussed as an advocacy tool.

B. Latin America and the Caribbean

100. In terms of NPA preparation, the Latin America and the Caribbean region had the best record of all regions in 1991 in the follow-up of the World Summit for Children. One-half of the total NPAs finalized by March 1992 throughout the world came from this region. Virtually all countries of Central and South America have finalized their NPAs, with preparations under way in most of the Caribbean countries.

101. Mexico has had the most systematic follow-up, with a biannual review of progress being undertaken by the President and his cabinet. In Venezuela, governors of state governments have been actively involved in preparing NPAs at both national and state levels. The heads of State and Government of the seven countries of Central America, Panama and Belize launched their NPAs in Tegucigalpa, Honduras, in December 1991, at a special summit meeting devoted specifically to human development, children and youth. In addition to committing themselves to fully implementing their respective NPAs, the leaders

also agreed to develop a regional programme for human development to help each other and to review progress annually at the summit level.

102. A number of significant factors indicate the high level of political commitment for the follow-up of the World Summit and implementation of NPAs in the region. These include the fact that strong support for the preparation of NPAs was voiced in the Guadalajara Declaration of the First Ibero-American Summit meeting, in the Declaration of the Group of Rio Presidents' meeting and in statements supportive of the goals for children in the 1990s endorsed by the Andean and Caribbean parliaments. The fact that the NPAs were drafted by high-level, interministerial working groups in most countries and were publicly launched by heads of State augurs well for their implementation.

103. There have also been excellent examples of inter-agency collaboration among United Nations agencies and other multilateral institutions in support of NPAs in the region. A joint agreement has been signed by the heads of PAHO/WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, IDB and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support the implementation and monitoring of the maternal and child health (MCH) and nutrition components of NPAs in the region. Directors for MCH at the five agencies were to have met in Brazil in April 1992 to follow up on this agreement. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) is closely associated with UNICEF and other United Nations agencies in supporting national statistical institutions to develop the necessary household surveys and monitoring mechanisms. A meeting on the subject was held in Santiago, Chile, in March 1992. UNESCO and UNICEF are working together to devise a good monitoring system for primary education and literacy, including indicators to register drop-outs, repetition and gender disparities in school attendance. PAHO/WHO is leading the effort to help relevant national institutions develop their capacity for monitoring progress in achieving the water supply and sanitation goals.

104. New modalities are being explored to finance projects for the most vulnerable groups. Examples include IDB funding of a subregional programme on children in especially difficult circumstances in Central America; a joint World Bank/UNDP/UNICEF feasibility study for a major social sector development loan by the World Bank in Argentina; and the debt swap for child development programmes being worked out in Ecuador, Honduras and Jamaica, with funding from the Netherlands Committee for UNICEF.

105. Many Governments in Latin America and the Caribbean see the 1990s as a decade in which they must pay their "social debt" to children and vulnerable groups incurred during the decade of stagnation in the 1980s. It is interesting to note that they see NPAs as their flagship plans for human and social development. In addition to the promise of allocating more resources for the implementation of their NPAs, most Governments that have created ad hoc, emergency social development funds propose to use these modalities for financing the priority programmes included in the NPAs.

C. Asia

106. In many Asian countries, the preparation of NPAs has been synchronized with, and integrated into, their forthcoming national development plans. Thus, the NPA will become part of the fourth five-year plan of Bangladesh, Bhutan's seventh five-year plan, China's 10-year perspective plan, India's eighth national development plan, Indonesia's Repelita VI and the three-year plan in the Maldives. In the case of Pakistan, the NPA is conceived as an essential part of the social action programme being prepared with collaboration from UNDP, the World Bank and UNICEF, and which is expected to be a major thrust of the country's eighth five-year plan. Similarly, in Nepal, the NPA has been prepared in tandem with the eighth five-year development plan, with the NPA being viewed as the major social development initiative of the newly elected democratic Government.

107. In many Asian countries, there is a policy shift towards more open economies and a reduction of direct State management of economic activities. Notwithstanding the aggregate economic growth in some of the countries, fiscal and trade imbalances and price inflation are a serious common concern. Because of these emerging conditions, the goals for children, relating as they do to the more vulnerable segments of society, call for alternatives to conventional approaches that may not be sustainable. Therefore, the NPAs provide an opportunity to bring new strategies to bear on the situation.

108. The process of preparing the NPAs has been more participatory than similar exercises in the past, with professional groups and voluntary organizations playing a key role. In the dynamic economies of East Asia, Governments are counting on the private sector to help expand basic social services to help reach the Summit goals. The lower-income countries of the Indo-China Peninsula and South Asia, on the other hand, foresee the need for substantial international support to implement their NPAs. The documents articulate this need in indicative terms and in differing degrees of detail.

109. In East Asia, the commitments made by Presidents and Prime Ministers at the time of the World Summit have been renewed and reinforced in subsequent high-level public events. China's Premier signed the Summit Declaration and Plan of Action before a public and international assembly, with Chinese children in attendance. Similar events were organized by Governments in Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mongolia, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam. These were particularly important occasions for ensuring national commitment and public support for Summit follow-up. Ministerial-level consultations on NPAs, held at Bangkok in July 1991, reviewed the baseline situation in East Asia and the Pacific and drew up provisional work plans for NPA preparation. National assemblies of legal experts, government officials, NGOs and public leaders have also been held in China, Indonesia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam to consider ways and means of implementing the Convention on the Rights of the Child in the context of the goals of the World Summit for Children.

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110. At the political level, support for the follow-up of the World Summit is particularly strong in South Asia. Soon after the Summit, the leaders of SAARC, meeting at Malé, Maldives, in November 1990, endorsed the goals of the World Summit and initiated a regional process in support of the NPAs. Recognizing that change in the situation of the girl child would be key to progress towards the goals, they proclaimed the 1990s as the SAARC Decade of the Girl Child. At their Summit meeting at Colombo, Sri Lanka, in December 1991, the SAARC leaders endorsed a decade programme of action for the girl child and underlined the paramount importance for South Asia of reaching the goal of basic education for all. A series of independent consultations of professionals from each of the seven SAARC countries is being held to refine strategies for reaching each of the goals. These consultations will feed into the second SAARC Conference on the South Asian Child to be held at Colombo in mid-September 1992, the report of which will be submitted to the seventh SAARC Summit at Dhaka, Bangladesh, in late November 1992.

111. One of a few "non-economic" issues that the Summit meeting of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) discussed in Singapore in January 1992 was the follow-up of the World Summit for Children. On that occasion, the ASEAN leaders reiterated the importance they attach to the follow-up of the World Summit through the implementation of their NPAs.

112. Inter-agency collaboration for the joint monitoring of the decade goals is the subject of a comprehensive project in the region of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The education goals are of particular concern to Asia and have been the subject of numerous regional meetings involving the Asian Development Bank, ESCAP, UNESCO, UNICEF, UNDP and the World Bank, together with senior education ministry officials from all countries concerned.

113. The goals are generally not new to the countries of Asia, many of which have considerable strength in terms of service infrastructure, professional capacity and past progress. What is new is the emergence of a socio-political urgency for an accelerated pace of achievement in a Government/community partnership, mediated and supported by professional and voluntary groups through various modes and channels of social communication and community activation.

D. Sub-Saharan Africa

114. The severe economic crisis facing Africa during the 1980s has continued into the early 1990s, making the challenge of implementing the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children even greater for African countries. National and community resources to provide the minimum survival and development needs of children are being constrained by low economic growth rates and declines in resource transfers to Africa. With economic prospects projected to remain bleak in the foreseeable future, urgent measures to promote the well-being of their children is an essential investment that African families, communities and Governments need to make for their future prosperity.

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115. Despite the economic constraints, however, African countries have taken a series of actions, at both national and international levels, to pursue the implementation of the World Summit for Children. At the national level, these actions include publicizing the Declaration of the World Summit and commencing national debates about the future of children. With many countries currently going through a process of political transition in Africa, which may lead to new forms of social and political organization, an opportunity has been created to put children's issues onto national agendas. In countries where new and innovative forums (such as national conferences) have been created for reviewing national policies and priorities, children's issues are being included and discussed. It is hoped that the new structures and policies that emerge will have children's concerns embedded in their mandates. However, these processes of political change, still ongoing in several countries, have constrained the possibility for charting out the specifics of government action in the near term, as it is difficult for countries in political transition to articulate these emerging policies into immediate operational strategies and specific programmes. In other countries, including in the Horn of Africa and in southern Africa, continued civil strife and impending famine conditions caused by drought have limited national capacity to address long-term development issues. It is within this context that many African countries are preparing their NPAs. While by early 1992 only five countries had adopted their NPAs, nearly all countries in sub-Saharan Africa had begun the preparation process. It is expected that the process will have been completed in most of these countries by the end of 1992.

116. Notwithstanding the delays in the completion of NPAs, commitment for the follow-up of the World Summit remains high throughout the region. At the twenty-seventh summit meeting of heads of State and Government of OAU held at Abuja, Nigeria, in June 1991, African leaders reaffirmed their commitment to implement the Declaration and Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children. In a resolution on implementing the Decade of the African Child, this largest-ever gathering of African leaders called for early completion of NPAs. OAU also decided to convene an international donors' conference for assistance to Africa's children in 1992 in view of the continent's prolonged economic and social crisis and, hence, its especially urgent need for additional assistance for programmes to achieve the Summit goals.

117. On numerous occasions, African leaders have reaffirmed their strong interest in and commitment to the follow-up of the World Summit. Leaders from Africa referred repeatedly to the priority they attached to improving the situation of African children in their statements at the Commonwealth Head of State and Government Summit held at Harare, Zimbabwe, in October 1991; at the Francophone Summit held in Paris in November 1991; and at the Islamic Summit Conference held at Dakar, Senegal, in December 1991. The declarations and statements emanating from each of these high-level meetings called upon each country and the international community to "keep the promise" of the World Summit for Children.

118. The completed NPAs in sub-Saharan Africa (Burkina Faso, the Central African Republic, Mali, Namibia and Senegal) as well as those very close to

completion (Benin, Ghana, Guinea, Kenya, Rwanda and Zimbabwe) share a number of strategic orientations, especially in addressing the problems and priority needs of children and women through intersectoral interventions. In addition, three operational principles are commonly found among the different NPAs: (a) community-based participatory approaches, with an emphasis on household and community involvement and empowerment of the poor, leading to increased self-reliance; (b) decentralization to regional, district and community levels through strengthening the mechanisms for intersectoral cooperation at all levels; and (c) building adequate national capacity to plan, implement, monitor and evaluate programmes for children and women.

119. The Namibia NPA has examined the need to reorient government agencies to contribute in a more effective manner to the reduction of socio-economic disparities, while that of Guinea focuses on a strategy that will ensure child survival, health and protection mainly through low-cost, community-based interventions. The preparation of the NPA in Chad has created an opportunity for advocacy on behalf of children with the military; the Ministry of Defence, at the request of the head of State, requested UNICEF assistance in arranging and coordinating the demobilization of more than 600 children between the ages of 8 and 16 years previously serving in army units dispersed throughout the country. In Madagascar, a major effort has been made to integrate the country's environmental programme of action with the NPA for children. In sum, advocacy for greater investment in human priority areas through restructuring and additional allocation of resources has been taking place simultaneously with the formulation of NPAs.

120. The NPA preparation process that is ongoing in most African countries involves not only high-level, interministerial government participation, but also the active involvement of many NGOs and human rights and religious groups. With their economic prospects projected to remain bleak in the foreseeable future, investment in the well-being of their children is an essential "safety net" that African families, communities and Governments need to ensure their future prosperity. The international community will have to match the efforts of African Governments and peoples if Africa is to avoid another "lost decade" of development.

E. Industrialized countries

121. Industrialized nations have at least a twofold role to play in the follow-up of the World Summit for Children: (a) to prepare an NPA aimed at pursuing the goals and strategies of the Summit as they apply to children in these countries; and (b) to review their ODA to ensure that programmes aimed at achieving the goals for the survival, protection and development of children in developing countries are accorded a high priority in the allocation of ODA. In many industrialized countries, the speedy ratification and implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child has also been seen as a specific response to the World Summit for Children.

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122. As of the end of March 1992 five industrialized countries - Denmark, Finland, Japan, Sweden and the United Kingdom - had, together with the Holy See, completed their NPAs. Preparations were under way in nine other countries, including Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, the Netherlands and the United States, which were reported to be in final stages of completion. This still left a large number of industrial countries which, according to information made available to UNICEF, reported no action under way. While these include countries in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union which are all in the midst of difficult transition, it is a matter of concern that several European countries whose heads of State and Government actually attended the World Summit, or signed the Summit Declaration subsequently, have not yet initiated preparation of their NPA.

123. The completed NPAs, as well as those in preparation for which sufficient information is available, all deal with both domestic action and international cooperation.

124. On the domestic front, most industrialized countries point to the advances already made on behalf of children in their societies, the fact that many of the World Summit goals have already been achieved as regards the great majority of their children and the need to preserve and consolidate these gains. Nevertheless, they acknowledge that there are pockets of less advantaged in their midst and that there is still room for improvement in many respects. Thus, the NPA of Japan states that there is still room for progress with respect to the role and status of women in Japanese society. The United Kingdom document mentions the need to reduce disparities among various geographic, ethnic or gender groups which may be masked by statistics of national averages, and the Swedish NPA identifies specific groups of children with problems: children with handicaps; children of immigrants and refugees; abused children; adolescents who abuse drugs and alcohol; and adolescents who commit crimes. In the preparation of its NPA, Australia is paying special attention to the provision of services to its aboriginal community in relation to each of the key goals of the Summit Plan of Action.

125. The need to ensure the best possible child care in a rapidly changing family and community environment is mentioned in the NPAs of Denmark, Finland and Japan. Finland's NPA promises to extend to all children under school age the right to a day-care place by 1995. The Swedish NPA plans specific actions in the fields of nutrition, women/family planning/maternal health, the family, basic education and literacy, children in especially difficult circumstances and children and the environment. Creating a favourable environment in which all enjoy their rights as included in the Convention on the Rights of the Child is a major objective of Sweden's NPA. The document prepared by the Holy See points out that full and integral child development must satisfy not only basic physical and social needs, but also meet the need for the moral and spiritual well-being of the child. Even before completion of its NPA, Canada has carried out a number of actions by way of Summit follow-up, including changes in its criminal codes dealing with child abuse. Following the Summit, a Children's Bureau was established within Canada's Department of National Health and Welfare with the specific task of coordinating the Federal

Government's initiatives for Summit follow-up, including the preparation of Canada's NPA. There is strong bipartisan, Executive branch and Congressional support for child survival and development (CSD) programmes in the United States, as evidenced by the increased allocation for such domestic programmes as Head Start and Women and Infant Children as well as other measures outlined in an omnibus Congressional resolution entitled "The World Summit for Children Implementation Act of 1991".

126. The portions of NPAs of industrialized countries that are devoted to international cooperation typically include a review of current ODA and the priorities according to which it is allocated. Thus, Finland's NPA indicates that education, training, public health services, especially PHC services, population and family planning issues, as well as water supply and sanitation, are emphasized in Finnish bilateral development cooperation and that efforts will be made to allocate more resources to those development programmes that improve the general living conditions of children. The Japanese NPA states that currently some 8.8 per cent of Japan's ODA is allocated to education, health and population sectors and that efforts will be made to further strengthen assistance in these areas, with an emphasis on grant aid and technical cooperation. In so doing, Japan will actively endeavour to identify projects in the areas of PHC and primary and basic education, fully taking into consideration the NPA of developing countries, with a view to placing priority on assistance aimed at improving the condition of women and children. The Swedish NPA points out that Sweden contributes almost 1 per cent of its gross national product (GNP) to ODA and indicates that this will be increasingly devoted to actions benefiting children both directly through bilateral aid and through multilateral agencies and NGOs to which Sweden contributes. Priority goals for the future include equal access to services, implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, quality education, environmental consciousness and improved support to vulnerable groups such as the handicapped, immigrant and refugee children and abused children. The United Kingdom's NPA states that a fundamental aim of its aid programme is the promotion of human development, including better education and health, and support programmes that allow women to have children by choice. It is argued that the United Kingdom contributes to Summit follow-up both by helping to create a policy environment that is conducive to the pursuit of Summit goals and objectives (e.g., through concentrating aid on the poorest countries and supporting multilateral initiatives to reduce poverty, debt relief, adjustment programmes, good government) and through specific project aid and technical cooperation.

127. Most NPAs from industrialized countries tend to focus more on a description of current aid programmes than on future plans or trends. It is hoped that any future review and revision of current documents would make them more forward-looking, with adequate provision to facilitate monitoring of each country's follow-up of its Summit commitments.

128. Reports on NPAs still in preparation also give indications relative to international cooperation. Australia's NPA will include a re-examination of that country's development assistance budget. The Australian International

Development Assistance Bureau is currently considering a range of initiatives for possible inclusion in the NPA. The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) has undertaken a review of Canada's ODA allocation in support of Summit goals. CIDA co-sponsored a major international micronutrient conference in Montreal in October 1991 and allocated additional resources in support of programmes to reduce vitamin A and iodine deficiency disorders. It has also provided additional funding for NGO actions to promote the well-being of children in especially difficult circumstances. Canada continues to be a major supporter of child immunization programmes and has provided additional funding for WHO and UNICEF following the World Summit. In Norway, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is undertaking a review that is expected to increase the proportion of Norwegian development assistance for children. Additional ODA allocations were made by Norway as a direct result of the Summit, including increased contributions to UNICEF general resources and to the WHO control of diarrhoeal diseases programme. Increased funding for the USAID-administered Child Survival Fund, the United States contribution to UNICEF and other measures have been approved by the United States Congress. As a specific follow-up to the United States commitment made at the World Summit, the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of USAID visited Africa in 1991 and took action to further enhance United States support for actions to control AIDS and promote other PHC services in the region.

129. At the time of the World Summit, UNICEF had estimated that approximately $20 billion in additional funding would be needed annually for developing countries to implement the goals endorsed by the Summit. Of that amount, some two thirds would have to be provided by the developing countries themselves through realignment of their domestic budgets and priorities, with the remaining one third, or $6 billion to $7 billion, needed in additional external aid. Of this, the proportion needed by individual countries would vary from less than one quarter in East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean and MENA regions to between one third and one half in South Asia, and up to two thirds in the least developed countries of sub-Saharan Africa. In total, the additional aid requirement is estimated at about 10 per cent of current ODA budgets and could come from a combination of a net increase in aid and from shifting ODA from other sectors. The allocation of a modest amount of the "peace dividend" and debt relief measures were identified as other possible sources of funding.

130. As of March 1992, not enough NPAs with detailed cost estimates and indications of potential sources of funding had been received to be able to judge if the initial estimates of resources required were within the right order of magnitude. It is, however, clear that cost-benefit analyses of investments in children's development throughout the world continue to show a much higher rate of return than in many other sectors. It is to be expected, therefore, that additional funding for actions to achieve the Summit goals will be an important part of development assistance programmes of donor countries in the 1990s.

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131. With regard to monitoring, it is worth noting that the Japanese NPA provides for a periodic review of actions at the national level, as well as an undertaking that Japan will "collect information from UNICEF at appropriate moments regarding children of developing countries, and ensure that it is reflected in Japan's international cooperation in this area". Finland's NPA addresses the need to measure how the obligations incurred in the Convention on the Rights of the Child are implemented in daily life and notes that new indicators and parameters, including ways of taking the viewpoint of children themselves into account, should be developed. In 1991, Canada's House of Commons passed an all-party motion calling on the Government to report to Parliament once a year on implementation of the Summit Plan of Action and the Convention on the Rights of the Child at national, regional and international levels. Australia plans to produce a status report on the country's children once every five years.

VI. ACTIONS BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

A. The United Nations system

132. The genesis of the World Summit for Children, and now its active follow-up, provide a good - and hopefully growing - example of inter-agency collaboration within the United Nations system, particularly among the relevant specialized and funding agencies. The agencies offered their ideas and shared their experiences in the preparation of the Summit Declaration. The result of this collaborative effort is amply reflected in the Declaration and the Plan of Action, as most of the goals set at the Summit originated in the prior declarations of the World Health Assembly, the World Conference on Education for All and the policy statements of UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, UNHCR, FAO, ILO, the World Bank and others. Representatives of many United Nations agencies participated in the Summit meeting itself, including the heads of UNICEF, UNDP, UNFPA, WHO and UNESCO, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and, of course, the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

133. Since the World Summit, the involvement of members of the United Nations family in implementing the Plan of Action has been substantial, but uneven, in two senses. Some agencies have shown a greater commitment than others, and the participation of United Nations agencies in Summit follow-up activities has been stronger in some countries than in others. In certain instances there has been a tendency for both government and United Nations agencies to treat the Summit as essentially a UNICEF concern and to look to UNICEF as the primary United Nations agency responsible for Summit follow-up. UNICEF, while playing its part, has had to dispel this notion on numerous occasions.

134. In this respect, it should be emphasized most strongly that the goals and strategies of the World Summit for Children are closely aligned with the recent growing consensus in the international community on the importance of human development as reflected in the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade. The Summit goals, in fact,

emerged directly from the debate and decisions within the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council, the Second United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries and deliberations in the governing bodies of relevant United Nations agencies. These goals and strategies also reflect, in very specific, measurable terms, the priorities expressed in the UNDP 1991 Human Development Report and the World Bank World Development Report of 1990 and 1991, which have identified poverty alleviation and investment in people as key strategies for socio-economic development.

135. The Declaration and the Plan of Action of the World Summit for Children recognized the important role of the United Nations system and specifically requested its full cooperation and collaboration in ensuring the achievement of the goals and objectives of the World Summit. Responding to that request, the General Assembly, in its resolution 45/217 of 21 December 1990, called for all relevant organs, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system to take into account the goals, strategies and recommendations of the Declaration and the Plan of Action in carrying out their programmes, and invited the relevant governing bodies to consider specific measures within their competence to address the special needs of children in the light of the Declaration and the Plan of Action.

136. Pursuant to the above-mentioned General Assembly resolution and paragraph 35 of the Plan of Action of the World Summit, the Secretary-General of the United Nations wrote to the heads of all relevant United Nations agencies, as well as the international financial institutions, bringing to their attention the Declaration of the Summit and the attendant call on those agencies for supportive action. In response, the agencies have informed the Secretary-General how they propose to make their current programmes more supportive of the efforts to reach the World Summit goals and their plans to increase the level of funding as well as technical assistance for PHC, primary education and other areas having an impact on the well-being of children, particularly in developing countries.

137. Subsequently, the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation wrote to all United Nations resident coordinators asking them to convene meetings of all representatives of the various United Nations agencies in each country and to review together how the agencies best could assist, both collectively and individually, the Government in its efforts to implement the goals and objectives of the World Summit. Reports from field offices indicate that such consultations have taken place in many developing countries.

138. Inter-agency collaboration to support implementation of the commitments of the World Summit for Children has been a subject of consultations among heads of agencies and at the technical level in the Administrative Committee on Coordination (ACC), its subcommittees and task forces, the Consultative Committee on Substantive Questions (Operational Activities) as well as in the Joint Consultative Group on Policy and its various subgroups.

139. Because so many of the World Summit goals had already been adopted by the World Health Assembly within the context of "Health for All by the Year 2000", that organization has been in the forefront of follow-up activities as they affect the health sector. In May 1991, the World Health Assembly adopted a resolution on "World Summit for Children: follow-up action" (WHA 44.33), which welcomed and fully supported the Declaration and Plan of Action and recognized that attainment of the Summit goals for children and development in the 1990s was essential for reaching the overall goals of health for all by the year 2000. Resolution WHA 44.33 invited WHO member States to give the political and economic priority necessary to implement the commitments set out in the Declaration and Plan of Action, and requested the Director-General of WHO, in cooperation with UNICEF and others concerned, to implement the action outlined in his report and to monitor achievements in child health in all countries. WHO and UNICEF are coordinating Summit follow-up activities at numerous secretariat levels, as well as at the level of their governing bodies through the mechanism of the Joint Committee on Health Policy.

140. UNESCO welcomed the World Summit on Children as it further reinforced the drive towards accelerating basic education spurred by the Jomtien World Conference on Education for All. Extensive consultations have taken place among UNESCO, UNDP, UNICEF and the World Bank, the four co-sponsors of the Jomtien Conference, on bringing into operation a strategy for promoting basic education and literacy, as well as for mobilizing the necessary organizational and financial resources for such effort. Cooperation between the governing bodies of UNICEF and UNESCO on Summit follow-up is institutionalized through the mechanism of the Joint Committee on Education. A joint UNESCO/UNICEF initiative to focus on the nine largest developing countries, where 75 per cent of the world's illiterate population live, is being launched, with other agencies invited to participate.

141. UNFPA also attached considerable importance to the Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the World Summit, which is complementary to and supportive of the Amsterdam Declaration on Population and Family Planning. Given the UNFPA focus on MCH and family planning, most of the provisions of the World Summit Plan of Action are of direct relevance to UNFPA. The three major multilateral organizations involved in the field of MCH - WHO, UNICEF and UNFPA - have agreed on joint goals reflecting the Summit objectives and have issued joint guidelines to their field offices for enhancing their collaboration.

142. ILO, with financial support from the Government of Germany, has launched an "International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour" as a direct follow-up to the Summit. This programme will intensively promote and support action against child labour at community, national, regional and international levels.

143. FAO has committed itself to take the World Summit Declaration and Plan of Action into account in formulating the organization's medium-term plan. UNICEF is collaborating in preparations for the December 1992 international conference on nutrition being convened by FAO and WHO, an event that is

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expected to give major impetus to the nutrition-related goals of the World Summit.

144. WFP actions in emergencies, as well as in development programmes, are directly supportive of the objectives and goals set forth by the World Summit for Children. Echoing the sentiments expressed at the World Summit, the World Food Council has proposed an international agreement on the safe passage of emergency food aid to people affected by civil strife, war and natural disasters.

145. Programmes supported by IFAD aim at empowering poor rural women as a specific target group. IFAD sees its activities contributing to the improvement of the economic position of small farmers, especially women, whose empowerment is essential for reaching the goals of the World Summit for Children. In February 1992, IFAD helped to organize a Summit meeting of First Ladies on the Economic Advancement of Rural Women. The Summit was seen as complementary to and supportive of the World Summit for Children.

146. UNHCR has long been committed to the principles enshrined at the World Summit for Children. They form the basis of UNHCR policies and programmes to assist, protect and promote the development needs of refugee children. The UNHCR Working Group on Refugee Children organized a major consultation in Malawi in March 1991 to evaluate the impact and effectiveness of its guidelines for assisting young refugees. Other regional consultations are planned, and a coordinator for refugee children is to be appointed to enhance coordination of services, in close cooperation with the Senior Coordinator for Refugee Women.

147. In many countries, UNDP has played an active role in organizing inter-agency support to Governments in formulating NPAs and other supportive sectoral programmes aimed at achieving the goals and strategies of the World Summit for Children. UNDP, UNICEF and the United Nations Office at Vienna have fielded a number of joint missions to advise and assist Governments in formulating human development strategies and plans. As the UNDP human development initiative and the goals and strategies of the World Summit are broadly synergistic, these missions have been helpful to countries in formulating their NPAs. For example, the NPAs of Pakistan and Ghana are a collaborative product of the UNDP human development initiative, UNICEF country programme support and the World Bank social action programmes. Similarly, the NPAs in the five countries of Central America, Panama and Belize were prepared with extensive assistance from UNDP, UNICEF and other United Nations agencies. This inter-agency collaboration has resulted in more broadly focused NPAs incorporating the World Summit goals with strategies for human development and the reduction of poverty espoused by UNDP in the region. UNDP support to the Children's Vaccine Initiative ($21.6 million proposed for the period 1992-1996) is also a direct response to the World Summit.

148. United Nations regional commissions have been responsive to the World Summit in various ways. For example, ESCAP is considering the establishment of a special programme that would, among other things, monitor the social

condition of children in the region for appropriate action by Governments and other institutions in the region. It is also considering a programme that would promote and develop specialized services to meet the needs of disabled and orphaned children and those living in refugee areas.

149. World Bank lending for education and health has already increased substantially, with an increasing shift within these sectors to PHC and education. It is expected that Governments will present aspects of their NPAs for children at some of the forthcoming consultative group meetings of donors to be held under the World Bank auspices.

150. In a letter to the Secretary-General, the Managing Director of IMF has committed that institutions's help in assisting "national authorities in identifying areas in which expenditure can be cut, revenue increased, or productivity raised in order to free additional resources to be devoted to activities to help alleviate the goals of the World Summit for Children and other critical social objectives".

151. In its decision 1991/10 (E/ICEF/1991/15), the Executive Board requested the Executive Director "to ensure that UNICEF, working under the leadership of the Secretary-General and guided by the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and in cooperation with other relevant United Nations agencies, as an integrated part of its regular activities, provides full support to developing countries within its mandate, comparative advantage and resources, for the achievement of objectives contained in the Declaration and the Plan of Action adopted by the World Summit for Children".

152. Pursuant to that Executive Board directive, UNICEF has played its part in the follow-up of the World Summit, mindful of the symbiotic relationship between the goals and strategies for children in the 1990s as approved by the Board and those endorsed by the World Summit. UNICEF support to developing countries in their Summit follow-up has been a part of the country programme process. Thus, the situation analyses of children and women that UNICEF assists Governments to prepare have often served as useful background material for the preparation of NPAs. NPAs, in turn, provide the larger national framework within which UNICEF programmes of cooperation are situated. UNICEF cooperation in monitoring and evaluation as part of the country programme is a useful foundation on which Governments are building a system of databases for monitoring progress towards the achievement of NPA goals.

153. UNICEF has been working with relevant United Nations sister agencies to develop joint approaches for monitoring progress towards achievement of the World Summit goals as detailed in paragraphs 68-74 above, and UNDP and UNICEF are working with DAC/OECD as discussed in paragraphs 59-61 above.

154. It can be seen from the above that the United Nations system has responded to the World Summit for Children in a variety of ways and in many parts of the world. Of course, more needs to be done in supporting the preparation and refinement of NPAs where these have still not been finalized, in supporting their implementation wherever they have been finalized and, for

those agencies that have not done so, in preparing their own plans and programmes as called for in paragraph 35 (iii) of the World Summit Plan of Action.

155. Donor countries have strongly urged greater inter-agency collaboration in World Summit follow-up. As one of the initiating countries for the World Summit for Children, Canada has been active in this regard. Even before the Summit, the Prime Minister of Canada wrote to the heads of the World Bank, the regional development banks, UNDP and other agencies urging those institutions to actively support Summit follow-up. The NPAs of both Finland and Sweden emphasize that to achieve the goals set by the Summit, measures are needed throughout the United Nations system and that the targets of the different agencies should be coordinated.

B. Non-governmental organizations

156. The World Summit for Children was regarded as a landmark event by humanitarian and developmental NGOs in that their contribution to national development was recognized at the highest political level, in many cases for the first time. Those working in child-related areas particularly welcomed the invitation extended to them in the Summit Declaration to actively cooperate with Governments in formulating and implementing national plans of action to reach the Summit goals. In some 70 countries, this has resulted in close consultations between Governments and NGOs in the development of NPAs.

157. In addition, a large number of NGOs working in child-related areas have taken Summit follow-up actions within the framework of their own respective mandates. While some have prepared specific programmes of action to implement and support the goals endorsed by the World Summit, others have reviewed or restructured existing programmes to bring them in line with these goals. For example, the World Organization for Early Childhood Education adopted a new and broader policy on early childhood care and education. This approach aims to develop programmes at grass-roots levels that are adapted to local needs and traditions. The Christian Children's Fund launched an organization-wide plan called "Ten steps to 2000" which incorporates new interventions related to the World Summit goals into their ongoing programmes, and their national offices have prepared 10-year plans based on this expanded programme. Caritas International included "Families and Children" as a special theme for their 1991 General Assembly, resulting in priority action in that field over the next four years at international and national levels by member organizations in 145 countries. Rotary International, which had already mobilized thousands of its members to support a campaign to eradicate polio and extend coverage of other childhood immunizations and raised $30 million in support of this campaign, is continuing to provide leadership in pursuit of the goal to eradicate polio. At the country level, NGOs have also restructured their programmes to align them with the pursuit of World Summit goals. In both India and the Sudan, for example, NGO consultations were held at the national level to discuss their role in achieving the decade goals for children.

158. Many international NGOs have disseminated information on both the World Summit and the Convention on the Rights of the Child through their in-house newsletters or other publications. Through various workshops, seminars and other appropriate forums, a number of international NGOs have worked to mobilize the community to contribute to meeting the Summit goals and/or to the signing, ratification, implementation and monitoring of the Convention in their respective countries. Others have undertaken awareness campaigns through school systems to inform children about their rights and the commitments made by their leaders at the Summit to bring about a better world.

159. In varying degrees, NGOs have attempted to influence policy and decision makers in both public and private sectors to keep the promise of the Summit. For example, the national affiliates of some international NGOs are members of governmental committees responsible for children's welfare and they are, therefore, able to contribute to decisions and actions to "Keeping the Promise". Others, like Junior Chamber International (JCI), World Vision International, International Save the Children Alliance, to name a few, have organized and sponsored mass letter-writing campaigns to politicians, the media and corporate leaders to remind them of the pledge of a "first call for children" made by their heads of State/Government. Some NGOs, through advocacy, regular contacts at the ministerial level, active lobbying or testimony at government hearings, are able to focus attention on the plight of vulnerable children, often resulting in improved legislation being passed or increased funding for children both within a country and through overseas development aid. Examples of some of these NGOs are Rotary International, La Leche League, Save the Children Alliance, Catholic Relief Services and Child Hope.

160. NGOs have sought innovative approaches to follow up on the World Summit. For example, the Programme for Appropriate Technology in Health has pioneered an inexpensive and safe delivery kit for sale to families of pregnant women in Bangladesh to reduce infant and maternal mortality. At the International Model United Nations Headquarters, JCI had one of three committees focus exclusively on "The Future of Children". Its resolutions were ratified by the JCI annual General Assembly and recommended for implementation by national and local JCI chapters. The World Scout Bureau has instituted a "Youth Forum" which, in the spirit of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, enables young people to be involved in the decision-making processes of the scout movement as it continues its transition from a recreational to a community development organization. The "Voice of the Children", a campaign first developed in Norway and now sponsored by a variety of NGOs in some 35 countries, aims to give children the means to be heard through local and national hearings by those who make decisions that affect their lives. The NGO group Results, which helped to organize candlelight vigils in 75 countries just before the World Summit to draw international attention to the Summit, has spearheaded a "Keeping the Promise" campaign in many countries and communities. It has influenced important legislative action in support of the Summit goals in Canada, the United States and several other countries.

161. An innovative approach involving children and women in promoting peace was through a training session on conflict resolution organized by the International Federation of University Women. Each child was designated a woman from his/her country to serve as a mentor, and they jointly prepared a "Plan of Action for Peace" to implement in their home country. A major international conference on "Humanitarian Cease Fires; Peacebuilding for Children" was organized by a group of NGOs and individual experts with extensive experience in negotiations and operations to protect children and other civilians in situations of armed conflict.

162. Many partnerships have been forged between Governments and NGOs to implement NPAs as, for example, in Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Uganda. In Indonesia, NGOs are playing a leading role in community-based CSD programmes. The NPA of Namibia links government and NGO initiatives with community resource persons working on a volunteer basis.

163. NGOs have undertaken joint action at the international level as well. In October 1991, the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies organized a Summit follow-up meeting in Geneva of chief executive officers (CEOs) representing some 33 major humanitarian and development NGOs to review progress to date and the steps NGOs should take to help maintain the momentum of the Summit. One of the decisions reached at the meeting was to produce a "mobilization booklet", World Summit for Children: From Words to Action, that focuses on concrete ideas for action. The booklet is being widely distributed through NGO networks and UNICEF field offices. The CEOs also decided to hold an annual meeting of CEOs of development and humanitarian NGOs to monitor progress by both Governments and NGOs in meeting the Summit goals.

164. The more than 170 NGOs that are members of the NGO Committee on UNICEF organized a forum at Kadoma, Zimbabwe, in November 1991 which focused on the role of NGOs in implementing the Summit goals in sub-Saharan Africa, as the region currently facing the greatest constraints. Participants represented 113 NGOs from 42 countries. The Kadoma Declaration reaffirmed the commitment of NGOs to work towards local and global child development. They pledged to participate whenever possible in policy formulation and the development of NPAs; to assist Governments by providing basic infrastructures for child survival, development and protection; to enhance the exchange of information and experiences and the sharing of resources necessary for implementing NPAs; and to promote awareness of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to monitor its implementation. The forum underscored that NGOs must forge a partnership with each other and with Governments to achieve the ambitious goals of the World Summit for Children.

165. The World Alliance for Breastfeeding Action (WABA), a global network of NGOs and individuals, was created to increase the impact of efforts to promote breast-feeding as one of the most effective, low-cost interventions to decrease IMRs. WABA is working closely with UNICEF and WHO on their "baby-friendly" hospital initiative.

166. The youth NGO, World Initiative for Children, was established after the successful youth NGO round table held at Geneva prior to the World Summit for Children. It is part of a global movement to mobilize youth and involve them directly in programmes for children. It also provides an opportunity for youth NGOs to get together and exchange views. "On the Move", an action kit produced by the group with UNICEF support, provides ideas and concrete examples that can be replicated in communities around the world. The kit has been widely distributed through NGO networks.

167. Many NGOs are thus committed to working towards realizing the Summit goals in partnership with Governments and through the mobilization of increasing numbers of NGOs at grass-roots levels. The NGOs are reinforcing the vital role that they have traditionally played in responding to needs not readily addressed by Governments, such as those of exploited children, children in armed conflicts and children in remote rural areas.

VII. NEXT STEPS

168. Even as the present report goes to press, UNICEF is receiving a steady stream of NPAs and other progess reports on World Summit follow-up from many countries, agencies and NGOs. The report should therefore be considered an interim report of progress during the first year since the World Summit. The secretariat will be in a position to prepare a more complete report, or an update, if the Board so wishes, in 1993.

169. The follow-up to the World Summit for Children has been substantial and widespread, as this report has demonstrated. As a set of low-cost, practical and feasible actions to alleviate the worst manifestations of poverty, the goals and strategies adopted by the World Summit provide the world with an agreed agenda around which to rally as nations and peoples endeavour to identify priorities for development in the post-cold war era. The relevance and broad public appeal of this agenda at this historic juncture have also been conducive to a vigorous follow-up.

170. Nevertheless, a great deal remains to be done. The goals adopted by the World Summit are still a long way from achievement. A serious start towards their realization has been made by many countries. The next steps include the following:

(a) Countries that have not taken any action towards, or are lagging behind in, the preparation of NPAs should be reminded of the solemn commitment they undertook by signing the Declaration and the Plan of Action;

(b) NPAs that are in draft or outline form, or in some other way lack what is necessary for them to become operational, should be finalized and moved to the implementation stage;

(c) Weaker aspects of some NPAs, areas such as costing and monitoring, need to be strengthened;

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(d) Some countries that have long- and medium-term development plans and have not integrated NPAs into this planning process should do so;

(e) The commitment made by donor countries to re-examine their development assistance budgets in the light of the World Summit goals is still to be demonstrated in the form of major shifts in development assistance towards what the Human Development Report calls "human priorities";

(f) United Nations agencies and international financial institutions that have not done so should report their plans and programmes for World Summit follow-up to their respective governing bodies in accordance with paragraph 35 (i) of the Plan of Action. To date, only WHO and UNESCO have complied with this provision. It is also important for these agencies to provide support at the country level for the implementation of NPAs.

171. The Secretary-General of the United Nations was requested by the World Summit to arrange for a mid-decade review, at all appropriate levels, of the progress being made towards implementing the commitments of the Declaration and the Plan of Action. Such a review will have to present not just plans and programmes, but also the first results of the Summit's pledges in terms of a better life for children. This will require that monitoring systems be in place, that data be available to measure the condition of the world's children at mid-decade and that appropriate 1990 baseline data be available against which to evaluate the extent to which children's conditions have improved and whether or not progress towards each of the goals is on target. A great and concrete challenge is thereby traced for the coming three years not only to make serious and perceptible progress towards the decade goals for children, but also to develop the capacities necessary to measure such progress. The results of such efforts could contribute substantially to the preparation of the proposed World Summit for Social Development. It has been suggested that this might be an appropriate forum for the mid-decade review of progress in implementing the commitments of the World Summit for Children.

172. Nowhere is the need for the World Summit's pledges to become a reality more necessary than in Africa, precisely that region of the world where the resources and skills to achieve the goals and even to prepare the plans and programmes for their realization are in shortest supply. A crucial test of the commitment of both developing and industrialized countries to World Summit follow-up will occur when the OAU Donors' Conference on Assistance to the African Child convenes at Dakar, Senegal, in November 1992. Developing countries of Africa will have the opportunity to present NPAs with realistic goals, well-conceived strategies, responsible budget restructuring, appropriate cost analyses and adequate monitoring mechanisms. Donor countries will have the opportunity to manifest in concrete form how they propose to shift their cooperation priorities towards PHC, low-cost water supply and sanitation and basic education. The participation of many donors, as well as of agencies such as the World Bank and the European Community, will be crucial. A successful outcome of the conference will demonstrate that the World Summit's promise has indeed not been forgotten and that it has helped

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the world, both developed and developing, to focus more clearly on priority human needs in accordance with the principle of a "first call for children".

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Annex I

STATUS OF SIGNATURES ON THE DECLARATION OF THE WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN AND RATIFICATION OF THE CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD AS OF 31 MARCH 1992

SIGNED (136)

- ** Albania
- Antigua and Barbuda*
- ** Argentina
- ** Australia*
- Austria*
- ** Bangladesh
- ** Barbados
- ** Belarus
- ** Belgium
- ** Belize*
- ** Benin*
- ** Bhutan*
- ** Bolivia*
- ** Brazil
- ** Bulgaria
- ** Burkina Faso*
- ** Burundi*
- Cameroon*
- ** Canada
- Cape Verde*
- Central African Republic
- ** Chad*
- ** Chile
- ** China*
- ** Colombia
- Comoros*
- Congo*
- ** Costa Rica
- ** Côte d'Ivoire*
- ** Cuba*
- ** Czechoslovakia
- ** Democratic People's Republic of Korea*
- ** Denmark
- ** Djibouti
- ** Dominica
- ** Dominican Republic*
- ** Ecuador*
- ** Egypt*
- ** El Salvador
- Equatorial Guinea*
- ** Finland
- ** France
- Gabon*
- ** Gambia
- ** Germany a/
- ** Ghana*
- ** Grenada*
- ** Guatemala*
- ** Guinea*
- ** Guinea-Bissau
- ** Guyana*
- ** Holy See
- ** Honduras
- ** Hungary*
- Iceland
- India*
- ** Indonesia*
- Iran (Islamic Republic of)*
- Ireland
- ** Israel*
- ** Italy
- ** Jamaica*
- Japan
- ** Jordan*
- ** Kenya*
- ** Kuwait
- ** Lao People's Democratic Republic*
- ** Lebanon
- ** Lesotho*
- Liechtenstein
- Luxembourg
- ** Madagascar*
- ** Malawi*
- Malaysia*
- ** Maldives
- ** Mali
- ** Mauritania*
- ** Mauritius*
- ** Mexico
- Monaco
- ** Mongolia*
- Morocco*
- Mozambique
- ** Namibia
- ** Nepal*
- Netherlands*
- New Zealand*
- ** Nicaragua
- ** Niger*
- ** Nigeria
- ** Norway
- ** Pakistan*
- ** Panama
- Papua New Guinea
- ** Paraguay*
- ** Peru
- ** Philippines*
- ** Poland
- ** Portugal*
- ** Republic of Korea*
- ** Romania
- ** Russian Federation* b/
- ** Sao Tome and Principe*
- ** Saint Kitts and Nevis
- Saint Lucia
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines*
- Samoa
- ** Senegal
- ** Sierra Leone
- Solomon Islands*
- ** Spain
- ** Sri Lanka*
- ** Sudan
- Suriname
- Swaziland
- ** Sweden
- Switzerland*
- Thailand*
- ** Togo*
- ** Trinidad and Tobago*
- ** Tunisia
- Turkey
- ** Uganda
- ** Ukraine
- ** United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
- ** United Republic of Tanzania
- United States of America
- ** Uruguay
- Vanuatu
- ** Venezuela
- ** Viet Nam*
- ** Yemen*
- ** Yugoslavia
- ** Zaire
- ** Zambia*
- ** Zimbabwe

INITIALLED (23)

- Afghanistan
- Algeria
- ** Angola
- ** Bahamas
- ** Bahrain
- Botswana
- ** Cyprus
- ** Ethiopia
- Greece
- Haiti
- Iraq
- Liberia
- Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
- ** Malta
- ** Myanmar

NOT SIGNED (17)

- Armenia
- Azerbaijan
- Brunei Darussalam
- Cambodia
- ** Estonia
- Kazakhstan
- Kyrgyzstan
- Latvia
- ** Lithuania
- Marshall Islands
- Micronesia (Federated States of)
- Moldova
- Nauru
- Oman
- Tajikistan
- Turkmenistan
- Uzbekistan
- Qatar
- ** San Marino
- Saudi Arabia
- ** Seychelles
- Singapore
- Somalia
- Syrian Arab Republic
- United Arab Emirates

* Countries that signed after the World Summit for Children.

** Countries that have ratified the Convention on the Rights on the Child (114).

a/ The Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic were both admitted to membership in the United Nations on 18 September 1973. Through accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German States united to form one sovereign State. As from the date of unification, the Federal Republic of Germany has acted in the United Nations under the designation of "Germany".

b/ The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was an original Member of the United Nations as from 24 October 1945. In a letter dated 24 December 1991, the President of the Russian Federation informed the Secretary-General that the membership of the Soviet Union in the Security Council and all other United Nations organs was being continued by the Russian Federation with the support of the 11 member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

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Annex II

STATUS OF WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN NATIONAL PROGRAMMES OF ACTION AS OF 31 MARCH 1992

ASIA * 11 ** 8 *** 5	SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA * 26 ** 9 *** 4	MIDDLE EAST AND NORTH AFRICA * 13 ** 1 *** 4	LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN * 9 ** 5 *** 14	INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES * 12 ** 1 *** 6
Afghanistan * Bangladesh ** Bhutan Brunei Darussalam Cambodia ***China ** Democratic People's Republic of Korea * Fiji * India ** Indonesia * Kiribati Lao People's Democratic Republic ** Malaysia ** Maldives * Marshall Islands * Micronesia * Mongolia * Myanmar Nauru ***Nepal ** Pakistan * Papua New Guinea ***Philippines ***Republic of Korea Samoa Singapore * Solomon Islands ***Sri Lanka ** Thailand Tonga * Tuvalu Vanuatu ** Viet Nam	* Angola * Benin * Botswana ** Burkina Faso ** Burundi Cameroon * Cape Verde ***Central African Republic ** Chad Comoros * Congo * Côte d'Ivoire * Ethiopia * Equatorial Guinea Gabon * Gambia ** Ghana ** Guinea * Guinea-Bissau ** Kenya * Lesotho Liberia * Madagascar * Malawi ***Mali * Mauritania * Mauritius ** Mozambique * Niger * Nigeria ***Namibia ** Rwanda * Sao Tome and Principe ***Senegal * Seychelles * Sierra Leone Somalia South Africa * Swaziland * Togo * Uganda * United Republic of Tanzania * Zaire * Zambia ** Zimbabwe	* Algeria * Bahrain ***Djibouti * Egypt ***Iran (Islamic Republic of) Iraq * Jordan * Kuwait * Lebanon Libyan Arab Jamahiriya * Morocco * Oman * Qatar * Saudi Arabia ***Sudan * Syrian Arab Republic ***Tunisia * Turkey * United Arab Emirates ** Yemen	Antigua and Barbuda ** Argentina Bahamas * Barbados ***Belize ** Bolivia ** Brazil ** Chile * Colombia ***Costa Rica ***Cuba Dominica ***Dominican Republic ***Ecuador ***El Salvador Grenada ***Guatemala * Guyana Haiti ***Honduras * Jamaica ***Mexico ***Nicaragua ***Panama ***Paraguay ***Peru * Saint Kitts and Nevis * Saint Lucia * Saint Vincent and the Grenadines * Suriname * Trinidad and Tobago ** Uruguay ***Venezuela	Albania ** Australia Austria * Belgium * Bulgaria Belarus * Canada Cyprus Czechoslovakia ***Denmark Estonia ***Finland * France * Germany a/ Greece ***Holy See Hungary Iceland Ireland Israel * Italy ***Japan Latvia Liechtenstein Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Monaco * Netherlands * New Zealand * Norway Poland * Portugal Romania Russian Federation b/ San Marino * Spain ***Sweden Switzerland Ukraine ***United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland * United States of America Yugoslavia

* Preparation under way (71).
** Draft/outline received (24).
*** National programmes of action finalized (33).
Total number of countries preparing national programmes of action: 128.

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a/ The Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic were both admitted to membership in the United Nations on 18 September 1973. Through accession of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany with effect from 3 October 1990, the two German States united to form one sovereign State.

b/ The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was an original Member of the United Nations as from 24 October 1945. In a letter dated 24 December 1991, the President of the Russian Federation informed the Secretary-General that the membership of the Soviet Union in the Security Council and all other United Nations organs was being continued by the Russian Federation with the support of the 11 member countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Annex III

WORLD SUMMIT FOR CHILDREN
GOALS FOR CHILDREN AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE 1990s

The following goals, endorsed by the World Summit for Children in 1990, were formulated through extensive consultation in various international fora attended by virtually all Governments, the relevant UN agencies including WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNDP and IBRD, and a large number of non-governmental organisations. These goals are recommended for implementation by all countries where they are applicable, with appropriate adaptation to the specific situation of each country in terms of phasing, standards, priorities and availability of resources, with respect for cultural, religious and social traditions. Additional goals that are particularly relevant to a country's specific situation should be added in its national plan of action. Achievement of these goals is essential to full implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, which is the ultimate objective of programmes for children and development.

I. Major Goals for Child Survival, Development and Protection

- Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of infant and under-5 child mortality rate by one-third or to 50 and 70 per 1000 live births respectively, whichever is less.
- Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of maternal mortality rate by half.
- Between 1990 and the year 2000, reduction of severe and moderate malnutrition among under-5 children by half.
- Universal access to safe drinking water and to sanitary means of excreta disposal.
- By the year 2000, universal access to basic education and completion of primary education by at least 80% of primary school age children.
- Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country) to at least half its 1990 level with emphasis on female literacy.
- Improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances.

II. Supporting/Sectoral Goals

1. *Women's Health and Education*

- Special attention to the health and nutrition of the female child, and pregnant and lactating women.
- Access by all couples to information and services to prevent pregnancies which are too early, too closely spaced, too late or too many.
- Access by all pregnant women to prenatal care, trained attendants during child birth and referral facilities for high risk pregnancies and obstetric emergencies.
- Universal access to primary education with special emphasis for girls, and accelerated literacy programmes for women.

2. *Nutrition*

- Reduction in severe as well as moderate malnutrition among under-5 children by half of 1990 levels.
- Reduction of the rate of low birth weight (less than 2.5 kg) to less than 10%.
- Reduction of iron deficiency anaemia in women by one-third of 1990 levels.
- Virtual elimination of iodine deficiency disorders.
- Virtual elimination of vitamin A deficiency and its consequences, including blindness.
- Empowerment of all women to exclusively breast-feed their child for four to six months and to continue breast-feeding with complementary food well into the second year.
- Growth promotion and its regular monitoring to be institutionalised in all countries by the end of the 1990s.
- Dissemination of knowledge and supporting services to increase food production to ensure household food security.

3. *Child Health*

- Global eradication of poliomyelitis by the year 2000.
- Elimination of neonatal tetanus by 1995.
- Reduction by 95 per cent in measles deaths and reduction by 90 per cent of measles cases compared to pre-immunisation levels by 1995, as a major step to the global eradication of measles in the longer run.
- Maintenance of a high level of immunisation coverage (at least 90% of children under one year of age by the year 2000) against diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, measles, poliomyelitis, tuberculosis and against tetanus for women of child bearing age.
- Reduction by 50 per cent in the deaths due to diarrhoea in children under the age of five years; and 25 per cent reduction in the diarrhoea incidence rate.
- Reduction by one-third in the deaths due to acute respiratory infections in children under five years.

4. *Water and Sanitation*

- Universal access to safe drinking water.
- Universal access to sanitary means of excreta disposal.
- Elimination of guinea-worm disease (dracunculiasis) by the year 2000.

5. *Basic Education*

- Expansion of early childhood development activities including appropriate low-cost family and community based interventions.
- Universal access to basic education, and achievement of primary education by at least 80 per cent of primary school age children through formal schooling or non-formal education of comparable learning standard, with emphasis on reducing the current disparities between boys and girls.
- Reduction of the adult illiteracy rate (the appropriate age group to be determined in each country) to at least half its 1990 level, with emphasis on female literacy.
- Increased acquisition by individuals and families of the knowledge, skills and values required for better living, made available through all educational channels, including the mass media, other forms of modern and traditional communication, and social action, with effectiveness measured in terms of behavioural change.

6. *Children in Difficult Circumstances*

- Provide improved protection of children in especially difficult circumstances and tackle the root causes leading to such situations.
